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HISTORY

OF

CORTLAND COUNTY

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF SOME OF ITS PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS

EDITED BY

H. P. SMITH

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
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INTRODUCTORY.

WHILE it may seem to the uninitiated a task involving but little difficulty to prepare for publication a work no more comprehensive in character than this volume, and containing merely a history of a single county, still it is not out of place here to assure all such readers that the task is one involving a vast amount of labor and research, watchful care, untiring patience, and fair discrimination. This need not be said to any person who has had experience in similar work. In attempting the production of a creditable history of Cortland county the publishers and the editor did not underestimate the difficulties of this task, and came to it fully imbued with both a clear idea of its magnitude and determination to execute it in such a manner that it should receive the general commendations of all into whose hands it should fall. It is believed that this purpose has been substantially carried out, and that, while a perfect historical work has never yet been published, this one will be found to contain so few imperfections that the most critical readers will be satisfied.

It is the general plan of the publishers in the production of county histories to secure, as far as possible, local assistance in preparing the work, either as writers, or for the purpose of revising all manuscripts; the consequence being that the work bears a local character that could not otherwise be secured, and, moreover, comes from the press far more complete and perfect than could possibly be the case were it entrusted entirely to the hands of a comparative stranger to the locality treated of. In carrying out this plan in this county the editor has found such generous co-operation and assistance that to merely mention all those who have liberally aided in the work is impossible; the satisfaction of having contributed to a desirable public work must be their reward. But we cannot pass unnoticed the names of a few who have given most generously of their labor and time towards the consummation of the work: To Hon. R. Holland Duell, Hon. A. P. Smith and David E. Smith for aid in preparing the chapter on the bench and bar

of the county, most of the writing of which was done by the last named gentleman; to Dr. Caleb Green and Dr. Frederick Hyde, the former for writing and the latter for revising much of the chapter on the medical profession; to George L. Warren, H. W. Blashfield and others for assistance in preparing the history of the Masonic order; to Hon. Wm. H. Clark, B. B. Jones, F. G. Kinney, Wm. O. Bunn, Ed. L. Adams, W. O. Greene and E. P. Fancher, of the county press, for generous aid and the use of their valuable newspaper files; to Mrs. Dr. Frederick Hyde for valuable documents; to Alonzo Blodgett for use of valuable scrap-book; to Charles Kingsbury and T. Mason Loring for valuable historic materials; and many others in the different towns whom we cannot mention for want of space. In this connection we should be greatly neglectful of courtesy if we did not acknowledge our great obligation to the work of the late Hon. Horatio Ballard, whose published reminiscences contain so much that is of the greatest value to the historian of the towns of Cortland and Homer; and the same meed of credit is due to the indefatigable work of the late Hon. Nathan Bouton, whose published pamphlet embraces almost the entire history of the town of Virgil. With these brief and inadequate acknowledgments, the work is commended to its readers by the publishers and

THE EDITOR.

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SCOTT
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MARATHON
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BOSTON TEN TOWNS TRACT
MAP OF
CORTLAND COUNTY
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HISTORY

OF

CORTLAND COUNTY.

CHAPTER I.

NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Boundaries and Topography of the Territory now Embraced in Cortland County — Its Rivers, Creeks and Lakes — Geologic Formations — Climatic Features — General Character of the Soil — Timber.

THE county of which this work gives a history lies nearly in the center of the State of New York, from east to west, and but a little south of the center, from north to south. It is about twenty-six miles in extent from north to south, and about twenty miles from east to west, containing four hundred and eighty-five square miles. Its eastern and western boundaries are parallel with each other, and its northern and southern boundaries nearly so; the towns of Truxton and Cuyler, in the northeast corner of the county, extend a fraction of a mile farther north than the other two towns in the northern part of the county, and the same is true of Willet and a portion of Marathon, in the southeastern corner of the county. Cortland county is bounded on the north by Onondaga county, on the east by Chenango and Madison counties, on the south by Broome and Tioga counties, and on the west by Tompkins and Cayuga counties.

The territory now embraced within the limits of Cortland county formerly comprised four whole and two half townships in the southeastern corner of what was known as the "Military Tract" (which will be described a little farther on). The county was named in honor of Pierre Van Cortlandt, the first Lieutenant-Governor of the State of New York, and an extensive owner of and dealer in lands in the Military Tract. It lies upon the northern spurs of the Alleghany mountains, and embraces several of the more elevated points in the central portion of the State. The dividing ridge, or "water shed," from which flow southward the clear waters of the Tioughnioga and its tributaries to unite with the Susquehanna river, and northward the streams that help to swell the tide of Lake Ontario, lies in the northern portion of the county; streams flowing eastward to the Tioughnioga, and others flowing westward to Cayuga lake, are also divided at a point near Virgil vil-

lage. The surface of the county is made up of hilly ranges, which are separated by valleys narrowed down at some points to mere ravines, and at others widening out into broad, level and productive plains. The highlands are divided into three general ridges, which extend across the county in a northerly and southerly direction. The first of these occupies the extreme eastern border of the county, and is drained upon its western slopes by the Otselic river; the second ridge lies between the Otselic and the Tioughnioga rivers, being drained by both; and the third comprises the highlands to the westward of the Tioughnioga. The southern portion of the county is made up of a succession of high hills, the most extensive of which are the Owego hills, running in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction across the towns of Virgil and Harford, and near the foot of which is the water-shed above mentioned; they are divided generally by narrow valleys, and are, in common with the three ranges before alluded to, cut through by the ravines and valleys of the small tributaries of the Otselic and Tioughnioga, running lateral to the three principal ranges of hills.

The northern portion of the county spreads out into a high plateau, somewhat broken by hills. This plateau has an average elevation of about 1,200 feet above tide-water, while the ridges are from two hundred to five hundred feet higher. A broad plain occupies the center of the western portion of the county, into which most of the valleys of the tributaries of the Tioughnioga open.

The highest points in the county are Mount Topping in Preble, the Truxton hills in the northeastern portion, and the Owego hills in Virgil and Harford. These attain an elevation of from 1,600 to 2,000 feet. The configuration of the surface of the county thus described gives it a varied and, in many localities, a picturesque aspect.

The Tioughnioga river constitutes the principal drainage of the county, flowing southward nearly through its center. It enters the county in two branches, the eastern branch flowing from Madison county into the town of Cuyler, near the northeastern corner of the county, and continuing southwesterly through the towns of Cuyler, Truxton and Homer. The western branch has its source in a number of small lakes in the northern part of the town of Preble. This branch flows southward through the towns of Preble, Homer, and a portion of Cortland, when it bends to the eastward, uniting with the east branch near the boundaries of Cortland village, and thence flows in a southwesterly direction through Cortlandville, the eastern portion of Virgil, the northeastern corner of Lapeer, and Marathon, uniting with the Chenango river at Chenango Forks, in Broome county. The principal tributaries are the Otselic river, which enters this county from Chenango county, flowing through a deep valley in the town of Cincinnatus and continuing in a southwesterly direction, uniting with the Tioughnioga in the northern part of Broome county, after flowing through the central portion of the town of Willet. Trout brook rises in the eastern part of Solon, and flows nearly west through that town and Cortlandville, until it unites with the Tioughnioga about a mile southeast of Cortland village. Cheningo creek rises in the town of Taylor and flows northwestward through a portion of Truxton, in the southwestern corner of which it unites with the Tioughnioga. Labrador creek has its source in Labrador lake, a small body of water in the extreme northern part of the town of Truxton, flows nearly south, and unites with the river in about the center of the town. Cold brook rises in the eastern part of the town of Scott, flows southeasterly and empties into the west branch of the Tioughnioga in the northern

part of Homer. Factory brook rises in the western part of Scott, flows southeasterly, and unites with the Tioughnioga in Homer village. Otter creek has its rise in the extreme western part of the county, flows easterly and empties into the Tioughnioga near Cortland village. The town of Virgil is drained by Virgil creek, which flows westwardly, and Cunningham (or Gridley) creek, flowing eastward to the Tioughnioga. Harford is drained by the Owego creek, and Marathon by Merrill's creek, which empties into the Otselic river in Broome county.

Besides all these streams, there are numerous others of lesser importance, which are not known by distinctive names; the greater part of the county is well watered by numerous springs of excellent water. Skaneateles lake borders the extreme northwestern corner of the county (town of Scott), the inlet to which drains that portion of the county.

The largest bodies of water in the county are a series of small lakes in the northern part of the town of Homer and extending into Preble, and two lakes in the northern part of the latter named town. In the southwestern portion of the town of Cortlandville, about three miles from Cortland village, are three small ponds, fed by springs, and furnishing at their bottoms an almost inexhaustible supply of marl of an excellent quality. These deposits have been worked and a vast amount of superior quick-lime manufactured, since the locality was first settled. Marl is also found in smaller quantities and of an inferior quality in the town of Preble and the northern part of Homer.

Cortland county is in the third geological district of the State, the remainder of the district being composed of the counties of Montgomery, Fulton, Otsego, Herkimer, Oneida, Lewis, Oswego, Madison, Onondaga, Cayuga, Chenango, Broome, Tioga and the eastern half of Tompkins. Slate is the basis rock of this county. The Hamilton group, extending from Onondaga county, enters the northern part of the town of Truxton. In Preble, Truxton and portions of Homer are found quantities of the Genesee slate. It usually projects from the hills which bound the valleys in those localities. The Portage and Ithaca groups extend over the towns of Cortlandville and Solon, the larger portion of Homer and Scott, and the "terrace" between Truxton and Solon. They are found on either side of the Tioughnioga, but become narrower as they increase in thickness going southward. Specimens are also found along the borders of the Otselic river in Willet and Cincinnatus. These groups form a number of important quarries, which have been of great value to the county at large. The more prominent of these are located a short distance above Port Watson; a second one is about a mile below Port Watson, and a third between Homer and Cortland. These quarries have supplied a large portion of the flat building stone used in the two villages of Homer and Cortland, and most of the flag-stones for walks, etc. Above the layers of stone in these quarries there is a line of concretion, with shale, of a foot or more in thickness. Above this are layers of slaty, broken and decomposed shale and sandstone, forming the refuse of the quarry. Some of the lower layers of sandstone contain vegetable impressions and, owing to the alteration which the material of the plants has undergone, show small accumulations of coal. The lower parts of these quarries consist of large flag-stones, the surface of which is often waved, as the sandy bottom of a stream is sometimes impressed by gently flowing waters. These ripple marks carry the imagination back to the remote period when these same rocks formed the soft floors of shallow silurian seas.

The Chemung group extends over the

southwestern part of the town of Virgil, and is the highest elevation in the county. The same group is discernible near the boundary lines of the towns of Freetown, Cincinnatus, Willet and Marathon.

Bog ore has been found in small specimens in some of the swamps of the county, but is not believed to exist to any great extent. Albite, or white feldspar, is found in small quantities in Scott, Truxton and Solon. Specimens of basaltic hornblende have been found in the northern part of the county. Calcareous tufa is common in some of the eastern portions of the county.

On the west branch of the Otselic river is a calcareo-sulphurous spring, the water of which is quite strongly impregnated with the mixed ingredients of sulphur and lime. There are several other sulphurous springs in the county, and the Little York lakes, a few miles north of Homer, are slightly impregnated with sulphur.

The climate of Cortland county is characterized, in common with that of southern central New York, by great variability. The region south and southwest of the Mohawk river valley exhibits a lower temperature, by from four to eleven degrees, than the average of the State, and autumnal frosts occur from one to two weeks earlier. The physical features of the county would indicate a climate somewhat colder than that of the western portion of the State in the same latitude, chiefly on account of its greater average elevation. The valley in which is located the village of Homer is 1,096 feet above tide-water; this against 417 feet for the valley in which is built the village of Ithaca. The mean temperature of Homer is forty-four degrees and seventeen hundredths, while that of Ithaca (with a difference in latitude of only eleven minutes) is forty-seven degrees and eighty-eight hundredths, showing a difference in mean temperature of three degrees and seventy-eight hundredths. The daily range of temperature is a marked feature of the climate of the county, especially as experienced in the late summer and early autumnal months, when the mercury often shows a rapid depression towards nightfall; this, with wide range of temperature and the sudden changes during the different seasons, exerts a strong influence upon the health of residents.

The soil of the county may be generally characterized as chiefly a sandy or gravelly loam on the hilly portions, while in the valleys it is of a similar character, with a large admixture of disintegrated shale, slate and limestone. It is generally better adapted to grazing than to the raising of grains, though many portions are very productive in this respect. Agriculture and dairying form the chief occupations of the inhabitants, outside of the villages. The cultivation of fruits has been carried on to a considerable extent, but the cold winters and early frosts render it impracticable to successfully grow any but the hardy kinds.

The county was originally heavily timbered, chiefly with maple, beech, elm, basswood, pine, hemlock and cherry. On some of the higher hills is considerable chestnut and oak, and interspersed throughout the whole is some white ash and birch. Less than a century ago the hills and valleys of the county were covered with a grand old forest of these various kinds of trees, beneath whose silent shade, as far as we may know, only the copper-hued hunter and warrior had followed his narrow trail, and through which flowed the beautiful river with its romantic Indian name; a stream gradually but surely diminishing under the influence created by the advance of civilization. Here in the forest depths then roamed the timid deer, the stolid black bear, and among the thick branches hid the stealthy wild-cat and panther. The gray wolf in vast numbers made the night air echo with his

discordant howl, and smaller animals, the raccoon, the hedgehog, and squirrels without number, peopled the wilderness. The wild turkey and partridge often furnished food for the red hunter and his family; pigeons, innumerable as the leaves, made their summer homes in the forest branches, while the majestic eagle often took his lofty flight above the tallest monarchs of the wood.

CHAPTER II.

HISTORY OF THE ABORIGINES.

Their Origin — Physical Peculiarities — The Iroquois and their Great Confederacy — The Different Tribes and their Limitations — Traditionary Origin of the Confederation — Legend of Ta-oun-ya-wat-ha — Tribal Relations — The "Clan" System — Social Relations and Personal Peculiarities of the Iroquois — Their Amusements — The Councils — Origin of the Warlike Tendency of the Iroquois — The French Colonists and their Struggles with the Indians — Defeat of the Adirondacks — Military Organization and Charcteristics — Treatment of Prisoners — Physical Traits — Their Downfall Foreshadowed.

ALTHOUGH the history of Cortland county, as a section of the Empire State embraced within certain defined boundaries, dates back only to the year 1808, yet its historic records may be traced far into the remote past, through a period when it was either an undefined section of larger definite tracts with boundaries and names, or merely a comparatively small and unknown portion of the great wilderness of the western continent; through a period when it and its surrounding vicinity was peopled only by that barbaric race who are everywhere known and recognized by the generic name of Indians. While the history of this peculiar people, after they became intimately associated with the white race, may be intelligently written, there is very little known of them previous to that time that is not based upon tradition and fragmentary legend. Their remote past is shrouded in obscurity.

This absence of connected written history is, however, partially compensated by numerous relics in the form of implements of rude husbandry, warfare and the chase, which have been found in different parts of the country, upon the sites of their former villages, their burial places, and elsewhere. It is quite generally believed by those who have studied the subject, that this country was once occupied by a race of people more numerous and of much higher mental capacity and culture than the Indians. While there are evidences in support of this theory, apparently quite conclusive in character, it is still a theory, and such it must ever remain. But while we may safely conclude that it is by no means impossible that some race altogether different from the Indians existed here before them, there are strong probabilities that, if such was the case, the race was inferior rather than superior to the people discovered here by the Europeans.

The origin of the Indians is, perhaps, even more obscure than that of the possible aborigines of this continent; there is little regarding it that is not traditional. Able writers have advocated the theory that they are identical with the Mound Builders, who have left behind them those remarkable monuments of their existence, while others equally able claim that there is a wide chasm between the two that cannot be spanned in a rational manner. Of the latter the most eminent is, perhaps, Bancroft,

who says: "It has been asked if our Indians are not the wrecks of more civilized nations." His answer is: "Their language refutes the hypothesis; every one of its forms is a witness that their ancestors were like themselves, not yet disenthralled from nature." [1]

Many elaborate disquisitions have been written upon this branch of our subject; a number of modern writers give credence to the theory of a northwestern immigration by the barbarous hordes of Asia. John de Laet, a Flemish author, was an advocate of this theory, and one of the first to note a resemblance in the features, complexion and manners of the Scythians, Tartars and Samoeides and those of the American Indians. Bancroft supports the theory as follows: "The American and Mongolian races of men, on the two sides of the Pacific, have a near resemblance. Both are alike strongly and definitely marked by the more capacious palatine fossa, of which the dimensions are so much larger that a careful observer could, out of a heap of skulls, readily separate the Mongolian and American from the Caucasian, but could not distinguish them from each other. Both have the orbit of the eye quadrangular, rather than oval; both, especially the American, have comparatively a narrowness of the forehead; the facial angle in both, but especially in the American, is comparatively small; in both, the bones of the nose are flatter and broader than in the Caucasian, and in so equal a degree, and with apertures so similar that, on indiscriminate selections from the two, an observer could not, from this feature, discriminate which of them belonged to the old continent; both, but especially the American, are characterized by a prominence of the jaws. Between the Mongolian of southern Asia and of northern Asia, there is a greater difference than between the Mongolian Tartar and the North American. The Iroquois is more unlike the Peruvian than he is unlike the wanderer on the steppes of Siberia. Physiology has not succeeded in defining the qualities which belong to every well-formed Mongolian, and which never belong to an indigenous American; still less can geographical science draw a boundary line between the races." [1]

Priest, in his *American Antiquities*, expresses the conclusion that "Asia and America were peopled by similar races of men."

These evidences bear the appearance of conclusiveness, and it is almost certain that no stronger proof as to the origin of the Indians will ever be adduced. It is the most reasonable theory that has been advanced to account for the remarkable race of men that peopled this country when it was first visited by the white race.

The territory under consideration in this work was a part of the vast domain of the Iroquois Confederacy,[2] which extended, in general terms, from the Hudson river to the Genesee, and from the north to the south boundary of this State. The Confederacy was composed of the following nations, located in the following order from east to west: The Mohawks, (Ganeagaonos), on the river bearing their name; the Oneidas, (Onayotekaonos); the Onondagas, (Onundagaonos); the Cayugas, (Gwengwehonos); and the Senecas, (Nundawaonos), mostly located adjacent to the several lakes bearing

[1] Bancroft's *History of the U. S.*, II, 417.

[1] *History of the U. S.*, II, 400-01.

[2] Iroquois was not a name applied by the Indians to themselves, but was given them by the French, and is said to have been formed from two Indian words; but its meaning is vailed in obscurity. By the Dutch the five confederated nations were called "Maquas." They distinguished themselves as "Mingoes," meaning "United People." Parkman says, "their true name is 'Hodenosaunee,' or 'People of the Long House,'" because the five nations were ranged in a long line through Central New York, and likened to one of their long bark houses. Ruttenber says they bore the title of "Aquinosbione," or "Konosbioni," having the same meaning.

their respective names.[1] The origin of this Confederacy is, at least to a great extent, merely traditional. The Iroquois themselves ascribe it, as they also do the origin of the individual nations, to a supernatural source. They, like the Athenians, sprang from the earth itself. "In remote ages they had been confined under a mountain near the falls of the Osh-wah-kee,[2] or Oswego river, whence they were released by Tharonhyjagon, the Holder of the Heavens." Schoolcraft inclines to the opinion that the Confederation is to be referred to a comparatively recent date—early in the fifteenth century. Mr. Webster, the Onondaga Indian interpreter, who should be excellent authority, ascribes it to about two generations before the white people came to trade with the Indians. Pyrlaeus, a missionary among the Mohawks, to "one age, or the length of a man's life," before the white people came into the country. Others have accredited its origin to the severity of their wars with other nations, but without date; while Clark, "from the permanency of their institutions, the peculiar structure of their government, the intricacy of their civil affairs, the stability of their religious beliefs, and the uniformity of their pagan ceremonies, differing from other Indian nations in important particulars," thinks it must have had a longer duration than is given it by the others mentioned. Most of their traditions agree that the Confederation was formed on the banks of Onondaga lake, near where the village of Liverpool is situated.

Long years ago, says the Iroquois tradition, Ta-oun-ya-wat-ha, the deity who presides over the forests and streams, left his abode in the clouds to come and remove obstructions from their streams, to teach them how to cultivate the soil and become a united and prosperous people. In the vicinity of the site of Oswego he disclosed his mission to two Onondaga hunters, whom he prevailed upon to accompany him in his beneficent work; having accomplished which, he divested himself of his divine character, and took up his abode among the men of earth. He located his habitation in a beautiful spot on the shore of Teonto (Cross) lake, on the present boundary between Onondaga and Cayuga counties, where he built his cabin, and afterwards took a wife from the Onondagas, by whom he had an only and beautiful daughter, who was tenderly loved by him. His excellent counsels, wisdom and sagacity won the warmest esteem of the people, who gave him the name of Hiawatha, signifying "very wise man." Under his direction the Onondagas soon advanced to pre-eminent distinction as the wisest counselors, the most eloquent orators, the most successful hunters and the bravest warriors.

While Hiawatha was dwelling peacefully among "the people of the hills," they were attacked by a powerful enemy from the north of the great lakes, who laid waste their villages, and slew men, women and children indiscriminately; utter destruction seemed inevitable. In their dire extremity they appealed to Hiawatha. After thoughtful contemplation he advised a council of all the tribes that could be gathered together, saying, "I shall sit in council with you. Our safety is in good counsel and speedy, energetic action."[1] The council is be-

[1] Gallatin classes the Iroquois in three divisions: the eastern, consisting of the confederation known as the five nations; the western, of the Wyandots, or Hurons, and the Attionandrons, or neutral nation, north, and Erigas and Andastes, or Guandastogues, (Guyandots), south of Lake Erie; and the southern, of the Tuscaroras, the Tutelos, and the Nottowas, of North Carolina. The Tuscaroras and Tutelos removed to the north and were incorporated into the Confederacy, the former in 1715 becoming its sixth member, and the latter in 1758.—*Indian Tribes of Hudson's River*, RUTTENBER.

[2] Signifying, says Clark's *Onondaga*, "I see everywhere and see nothing."

[1] Other writers give this as, "Our safety is not alone

lieved to have been held on the banks of Onondaga (Oh-nen-ta-ha) lake.

A vast assemblage of chiefs, warriors, men, women and children gathered and kept the council fires burning for three days, awaiting the presence of the venerable Hiawatha, without whom they resolved to not proceed. Messengers were at length dispatched for him; they found him troubled in mind and filled with gloomy forebodings, which had caused him to resolve that he would not attend the council. But he was at length prevailed upon to go, and taking his beloved daughter they embarked in the venerated white canoe and glided down the placid Seneca and into the beautiful Onondaga lake. When they were recognized by the multitude a great shout of welcome rose on the air. As they ascended the steep bank of the lake and approached the council ground, suddenly a loud sound was heard as of rushing winds. All eyes were turned upward, when a dark cloud was beheld rapidly closing down upon them, increasing in size as it came nearer. The entire council, with the exception of Hiawatha and his daughter, sought safety in flight. The old man uncovered his silvered head and enjoined his daughter to await the impending calamity with fortitude and resignation. Suddenly, with a mighty swoop, a huge bird, with long and distended wings and a pointed beak, came down and crushed the beautiful girl to the earth, destroying her semblance of humanity, and itself dying in the collision. The frightened warriors cautiously returned, only to behold the terrible scene. The great bird was covered with a beautiful white plumage, from which each warrior plucked a plume for his crown. From that time and incident the Iroquois braves have always worn the plumes of the white heron as their martial decoration.

in the chief and chief, but in wise counsels;" or, "Become a united people and you will conquer your enemies."

Despairing and desolate, Hiawatha remained for three days prostrate upon his face on the ground. Every one present shared the old man's grief; he at length gained sufficient composure to enable him to take part in the deliberations of the council. Various plans were discussed, to which Hiawatha listened in silence. When all had concluded, he addressed the council. After briefly alluding to his own bereavement, he referred to the threatened invasion, and suggested that they should reflect for one day upon the speeches that had been made. The following day the council again assembled and amid breathless silence listened to the following words from the sage counselor:—

"Friends and Brothers: You have come many of you a great distance from your homes; you have convened for one common purpose, to promote one common interest, and that is to provide for our common safety. To oppose these hordes of northern foes by tribes, singly and alone, would prove our certain destruction. We can make no progress in that way; we must unite ourselves into one common band of brothers. Our warriors united would surely repel these rude invaders and drive them from our borders. Let this be done and we are safe.

"You, the Mohawks, sitting under the shadow of the '*Great Tree*,' whose roots sink deep into the earth, and whose branches spread over a vast country, shall be the first nation, because you are warlike and mighty.

"You, Oneidas, a people who recline your bodies against the '*Everlasting Stone*,' that cannot be moved, shall be the second nation, because you give wise counsel.

"You, Onondagas, who have your habitation at the '*Great Mountain*,' and are overshadowed by its crags, shall be the third nation, because you are greatly gifted in speech and mighty in war.

"You, Cayugas, a people whose habitation is the '*Dark Forest*,' and whose home is everywhere, shall be the fourth nation, because of your superior cunning in hunting.

"And you, Senecas, a people who live in the

open country and possess much wisdom, shall be the fifth nation, because you understand better the art of raising corn and beans, and making cabins.

"You five great and powerful nations must unite and have but one common interest, and no foe shall be able to disturb or subdue you.

"And you, Manhattans, Nyacks, Metoacks and others, who are as the feeble bushes; and you, Narragansetts, Mohegans, Wampanoags and your neighbors, who are a fishing people, may place yourselves under our protection. Be with us and we will defend you. You of the south and you of the west may do the same, and we will protect you. We earnestly desire your friendship and alliance.

"Brothers, if we unite in this bond, the Great Spirit will smile upon us and we shall be free, prosperous and happy. But if we remain as we are we shall be subject to his frown; we shall be enslaved, ruined, perhaps annihilated forever. We shall perish and our names be blotted out from among the nations of men.

"Brothers, these are the words of Hiawatha. Let them sink deep into your hearts. I have said it."

The council adjourned one day to give time for due consideration of this address and its recommendations. Upon assembling the next day the wisdom of the propositions of Hiawatha was unanimously conceded; and thus, according to tradition, was formed that remarkable league of the five Indian nations which no outward power has been able to break. Whatever may have been the actual circumstances surrounding its origin, its wonderful effectiveness, its permanency and its adaptability to its purposes cannot be questioned and stamp the mind that conceived it as a genius of the highest order.

Having accomplished his work on earth and admonished by the death of his daughter that his mission was ended, Hiawatha prepared to take his departure. As the assembled council was about to separate, he arose in a dignified manner and said:—

"Friends and Brothers: I have now fulfilled my mission on the earth. I have done everything that can be done at present for the good of this great people. Age, infirmity and distress set heavily upon me. During my sojourn among you, I have removed all obstructions from the streams. Canoes can now pass safely everywhere. I have given you good fishing waters and good hunting grounds. I have taught you the manner of cultivating corn and beans, and learned you the art of making cabins. Many other blessings I have liberally bestowed upon you.

"Lastly, I have now assisted you to form an everlasting league and covenant of strength and friendship for your future safety and protection. If you preserve it, without the admission of other people, you will always be free, numerous and mighty. If other nations are admitted to your councils they will sow jealousies among you, and you will become enslaved, few and feeble. Remember these words; they are the last you will hear from the lips of Hiawatha. Listen, my friends; the Great Master of Breath calls me to go. I have patiently waited his summons. I am ready. Farewell."

As his voice died away, sweet sounds were heard in the air; and, while all attention was directed to the celestial melody, Hiawatha, seated in the white canoe, arose in mid air, and the clouds shut him out from earthly sight; the while the melody gradually died away and ceased.

Parkman considered that "both reason and tradition point to the conclusion that the Iroquois formed originally one people. Sundered, like countless other tribes, by dissension, caprice, or the necessities of a hunter's life, they separated into five distinct nations."[1]

Clark, the able historian of Onondaga county, says: "By the early French writers, the Mohawks and Oneidas were styled the lower or inferior Iroquois; while the Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas were denominated the upper or superior Iroquois, be-

[1] Parkman's [illegible].

cause they were located near the sources of the St. Lawrence river. The Mohawks, who are commonly supposed to be the first nation in the Confederacy, and were considered the most warlike people in the land, were also styled elder brothers of the other nations, and so esteemed themselves. . . . To (them) was always accorded the high consideration of furnishing the war captain, or 'Tekarahogea,' of the Confederacy, which distinguished title was retained with them till the year 1814, when the celebrated Hoa-ho-a-quah, an Onondaga, was chosen in general council at Buffalo, to fill that important station."

The central and unique characteristic of the Iroquois league was not the mere fact of five separate tribes being confederated together; such unions have been frequent between different civilized and half-civilized peoples, though little practiced among the savages of North America. The peculiar feature that distinguished the "People of the Long House" from, probably, all the world beside, and which bound together this great band of ferocious warriors as with a living chain, was their system of clans, which extended through all the different tribes. The word "clan" is used as best representing the peculiar artificial families established by the Iroquois, and not because their clan system resembled any other. No light tie could hold in harmonious devotion to a common interest such a fierce and barbarous people as these. The problem was eminently worthy of the mind that solved it; as solved, it held them inflexibly, yet unrestrainedly, to all matters relating to their federated existence, and at the same time secured the utmost freedom and elasticity in their tribal and national relations—a most important consideration with a people entertaining the highest possible regard for personal liberty.

The Iroquois Confederacy was divided into nine of these clans, or families, the names of which were as follows: Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Turtle, Deer, Snipe, Heron, Hawk and Potatoe. When the union was effected each of the original five tribes into which each of the five nations was divided, transferred one-fifth of its numbers to every other nation.[1] These tribes, or clans, formed two divisions, the second subordinate to the first, which was composed of the four first named. The members of each division were regarded as brothers to those in that division to which they belonged, while they were only cousins to those in the other divisions. Each clan constituted a family, and while all of its members were accounted brothers and sisters, they were also brothers and sisters of the members of all the other clans having the same device, or name. The indissoluble and powerful bond thus formed by the ties of consanguinity, was still further strengthened through the marriage relation. Marriage was originally prohibited between members of the same division, but in time the restriction was limited to those of the same clan. It was held to be an abomination for two persons of the same clan to intermarry, and the prohibition was strictly enforced; hence every individual family must contain members from at least two of the clans or tribes. The child belonged to the clan of the mother, not the father, from whom it inherited nothing. All rank, titles and possessions passed through the female.

Every member of each clan being thus taught from infancy that they belonged to the same family, a bond of the strongest possible kind was created throughout the

[1] Accounts differ, some declaring that every clan (or tribe) extended through all the tribes, and others that only the Wolf, Bear and Turtle clans did so. It is certain, however, that each tribe, Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas or Senecas, contained a part of the three clans named, and of several of the others.—Johnson's *History of Lee County*.

Confederacy. The Oneida of the Wolf clan no sooner appeared among the Cayugas, for example, than those of the same clan took him in charge as their special guest, and admitted him to the most confidential intimacy. The Seneca of the Turtle clan might wander into the country of the Mohawks, at the farthest extremity of the "Long House;" but there he had a claim upon his brother Turtles which they would not think of repudiating. If at any time an inclination was felt toward conflict between different tribes, it was instantly checked by the knowledge that if persisted in, the hand of the Heron might be lifted against his brother Heron in another clan; the hatchet of the Bear might be hurled at the head of his kinsman Bear. And so powerful was this influence that for two centuries, or more, and until the league was disintegrated by overwhelming outside forces, there were no serious dissensions between the tribes of the Iroquois. Surely it was one of the most remarkable confederacies in the history of the world.

"This system of clanship," says Parkman, "was of very wide prevalence. Indeed, it is more than probable that close observation would have detected it in every tribe east of the Mississippi; while there is positive evidence of its existence in by far the greater number."

The son of a chief could never be a chief by hereditary title, though he might become one through personal merit; but a grandson, great-grandson or nephew might succeed him.[1]

This rule, though binding, was quite elastic, and capable of reaching to the farthest limits of the clan — each of which was allowed to select its chief from among its own members. Almost invariably the chief was succeeded by a near relative, and always on the female side; but if such were manifestly unfit, his successor was chosen at a council of the tribe from among remoter kindred, in which case he was proposed by the matron of the late chief's household.[1] In any event the choice was never adverse to the popular decision. The new chief was inducted into office by a formal council of the sachems of the league; on assuming his office he dropped his own name and substituted that which, since the formation of the Confederacy, had belonged to his especial chieftainship. He was required to be a skillful hunter, and liberal with his game. He must also be a good physician, able to advise and assist the sick under every combination of circumstances. It was his duty to care for orphans, to harbor strangers, and to keep order in his town. But he, like the sachem, had no power of compulsion; he must keep up his reputation and control by a courteous, prudent and winning behavior.[2]

The tribes were by no means equal in numbers, distinction and power. So marked were the differences that, according to Colden and other writers, only the three most prominent were recognized by some early observers — those of the Turtle, the Bear and the Wolf; and yet, with no other law than common usage under this league, and no means of enforcing justice, these uncultured savages dwelt together in communities aggregating thousands, with a harmony that civilization might envy.

In reference to social matters, Parkman says that, "though vain, arrogant, boastful and vindictive, these Indians bore abuse and sarcasm with an astonishing patience.

[1] Champlain noticed this law of descent among the Hurons in 1615, and probably referred it to its true origin, namely, a child must be the son of his mother, while he might not be of his putative father; "a consideration," says Parkman, "of more than ordinary force in an Indian community." The same observation had been made some years before, by Capt. John Smith, with reference to the tribes in Virginia.

[1] Lafitau.

[2] Loskiel.

Though greedy and grasping, he was lavish without stint, and would give away his all to soothe the moans of a departed relative, gain influence and applause, or ingratiate himself with his neighbors. In his dread of public opinion, he rivaled some of his civilized successors. All Indians, and especially these populous and stationary tribes, had their code of courtesy whose requirements were rigid and exact; nor might any infringe it without the ban of public censure. Indian nature, inflexible and unmalleable, was peculiarly under the control of custom. Established usage took the place of law — was, in fact, a sort of common law, with no tribunal to expound or enforce it. . . . All were prompt to aid each other in distress, and neighborly spirit was often exhibited among them. When a young woman was permanently married, the other women of the village supplied her with firewood for the year, each contributing an armful. When one or more families were without shelter, the men of the village joined in building them a house. In return the recipients of the favor gave a feast, if they could; if not, their thanks were sufficient.[1] Among the Iroquois and Hurons, and, doubtless, among the kindred tribes, there were marked distinctions of noble and base, prosperous and poor; yet, while there was food in the village, the meanest and poorest need not suffer want. He had but to enter the nearest house and seat himself by the fire, when, without a word on either side, food was placed before him by the women.

"Contrary to the received opinion, these Indians, like others of their race, when living in communities, were of a very social disposition. Besides their incessant dances and feasts, great and small, they were continually visiting, spending most of their time in neighbors' houses, chatting, joking, bantering one another with witticisms, sharp, broad, and in no sense delicate, yet always taken in good part. Every village had its adepts in these wordy tournaments, while the shrill laugh of young squaws, untaught to blush, echoed each hardy jest and rough sarcasm."

According to the same writer, there was another council besides the general council, between which and that of the subordinate chiefs the line seems not to have been very clearly defined. It appears to have been essentially popular, and popular in the best sense. Any man took part in it whose age and qualifications fitted him to do so. It was merely the gathered wisdom of the nation. Lafitau, the Jesuit, who was familiar with the Iroquois at the height of their prosperity, compared it to the Roman Senate, and defines it as the central and controlling power, so far, at least, as the separate nations were concerned. He describes it as "a greasy assemblage, sitting *sur leur derrière*, crouched like apes, their knees as high as their ears, or lying, some on their bellies, some on their backs, each with a pipe in his mouth, discussing affairs of state with as much coolness and gravity as the Spanish Junta or the Grand Council of Venice."

The warriors also had their councils, and the women, too; and the opinions and wishes of both were represented by deputies in the councils of the old men, as well as in those of the sachems. Indeed, the government of this unique republic rested wholly in councils; therein all questions — of social, political, military and religious matters — were settled. In this blending of individual, family, tribal, national and federal interests, lay the secret of the marvelous power of the Iroquois — a power which

[1] In referring to the charity of the Indians, Ragueneau wrote in his *Relation:* "As often as we have seen tribes broken up, towns destroyed, and the people driven to flight, we have seen them to the number of seven or eight hundred persons received with open arms by charitable hosts, who gladly gave them aid, and even distributed among them a part of the lands already planted, that they might have the means of living."

for a century and a half successfully opposed the hostilities of the French; which made them, during the century from 1664 to 1763, an unconquerable mass between the contending French and English colonists in America, alike feared and courted by both; which enabled them to exterminate or subdue the neighboring tribes with whom they had long waged wars.

The Iroquois were not always the fierce and blood-thirsty people which they were found to be when the French made their first settlements in Canada. The circumstances which led them to measurably forsake their former occupations of peaceful husbandry and the chase, and involved them in a war with the Adirondacks, are thus graphically narrated by Colden: "The Adirondacks formerly lived three hundred miles above Trois Rivières, where now the Utowawas are situated; at that time they employed themselves wholly in hunting, and the Five Nations made the planting of corn their business. By this means they became useful to each other, by exchanging corn for venison. The Adirondacks, however, valued themselves as delighting in a more manly employment, and despised the Five Nations, in following business which they thought only fit for women. But it once happened that the game failed the Adirondacks, which made them desire some of the young men of the Five Nations to assist them in hunting. These young men soon became more expert in hunting, and more able to endure fatigue, than the Adirondacks expected or desired; in short, they became jealous of them, and one night murdered all the young men they had with them. The Five Nations complained to the chiefs of the Adirondacks of the inhumanity of this action; but they contented themselves with blaming the murderers, and ordered them to make some small presents to the relatives of the murdered persons,[1] without being apprehensive of the resentment of the Five Nations; for they looked upon them as men not capable of taking any revenge.

"This, however, provoked the Five Nations to that degree that they soon resolved by some means to be revenged; and the Adirondacks, being informed of these designs, thought to prevent them by reducing them with force to their obedience.

"The Five Nations then lived where *Mont Real* now stands; they defended themselves at first but faintly against the vigorous attacks of the Adirondacks, and were forced to leave their own country and fly to the banks of the lakes, where they now live. As they were hitherto losers by the war, it obliged them to apply themselves to the exercise of arms, in which they became daily more and more expert. Their

[1] It was customary with the Iroquois, as with other Indian nations, to expiate murder by means of presents given to the friends of the deceased. It is a most peculiar reflection that the efforts were directed not to bringing the murderers to a just punishment, but to satisfying those who had a right to feel aggrieved. Murder was the most heinous crime except witchcraft, and was rare. If the slayer and the slain were of the same household or tribe, the affair was regarded as a family quarrel, to be settled by the immediate kin on both sides. This, under the pressure of public opinion, was commonly effected without bloodshed. But if the murderer and his victim were of different clans or nations, still more if the slain was a foreigner, the whole community became interested to prevent the discord or the war which might arise. To this end, contributions were made and presents collected. Their number and value were determined by established usage, and differed with different nations. The Iroquois demanded 100 yards of wampum for the murder of a man and 200 for that of a woman. If the victim was of a foreign tribe, a higher compensation was demanded, as it involved the danger of war. Authors differ as to the result which followed in case of refusal on the part of relatives of the deceased to accept the proper atonement, which they might do if they chose. Some have held that the murderer was given the relatives as a slave, but they might by no means kill him. Colden says they "have such absolute notions of liberty that they allow no kind of superiority of one over another, and banish all servitude from their territories." Loskiel intimates that the punishment of death may be inflicted. Under these regulations, capital crimes were rare.

sachems, in order to raise their people's spirits, turned them against the Satanas, a less warlike nation, who then lived on the banks of the lakes; for they found it was difficult to remove the dread their people had of the valor of the Adirondacks. The Five Nations soon subdued the Satanas, and drove them out of their country; and their people's courage being thus elevated, they from this time not only defended themselves bravely against the whole force of the Adirondacks, but often carried the war into the heart of the Adirondacks' country, and at last forced them to leave it, and to fly into that part of the country where Quebec is now built."

While the war was waging between the Adirondacks and the Iroquois, the French colonists, having already shown their enmity to the latter, drew most of the other nations to Quebec, through the influence of the fur trade, and supplied them with firearms. These nations then joined in the war against the Iroquois, and the Adirondacks resolved upon the utter destruction of the Five Nations; but their discipline had become weakened by the restlessness of the younger warriors, a fact that the Iroquois were not slow to discover and take advantage of. They became more than ever obedient to the counsels of their chiefs, and more active in the execution of every undertaking. They opposed strategy against the superiority in numbers and arms of the enemy, fighting them from ambuscades and causing them severe losses. The Iroquois finally obtained arms from the Dutch, who had begun a settlement on the site of Albany, and the war was vigorously continued until it culminated in the almost utter annihilation of the Adirondacks. Governor Champlain and his French forces learned too late that, in allying to themselves the Adirondacks and other nations not in union with the Confederacy, they had united their fortunes with the conquered instead of with the conqueror. The Quatoghies, or Hurons, who were allied with the Adirondacks, suffered the same disastrous defeat in a fierce battle fought within sight of the French settlement at Quebec.

With the same terrible, implacable and deadly vengeance the Iroquois pursued and fought other enemies; the Neutrals and the Eries to the westward, and the Andastes in the south, were subsequently almost wiped out of existence as nations, and they became the savage lords of the Continent, their sway extending over the vast territory estimated to be twelve hundred miles long and eight hundred broad, embracing a large part of New England, and reaching to the Mississippi. The French settlers in Canada, and the Cherokees and Catawbas in the far South were all humbled by their power.

"At one period," says Schoolcraft, "we hear the sound of their war cry along the shores of St. Mary's, and at the foot of Lake Superior; at another under the walls of Quebec, where they finally defeated the Hurons under the eyes of the French. They put out the fires of the Gahkas and Eries. They eradicated the Susquehannocks. They placed the Lanappes, the Nanticokes and Muncees under the yoke of subjection. They put the Metoacks and Manhattans under tribute. They spread the terror of their name all over New England. They traveled the whole length of the Appalachian Chain, and descended like the enraged Yagisho and Megalonyx on the Cherokees and Catawbas. Smith encountered their warriors in the settlement of Virginia, and La Salle on the discovery of the Illinois."

From these conquered nations the Iroquois exacted tribute, and drew conscripts for their armies. The Tuscaroras, of the Carolinas, were incorporated into the Confederacy in 1713, after which it was known as the Six Nations. From their

great valor and success in war, and the extent of territory conquered by them, they have been aptly termed, "the Romans of the New World." When it is remembered that probably at no time could they bring into the field more than two thousand of their own warriors, and yet subjugated nations twice as large in numbers, and spread terror among the French settlements in Canada, threatening their utter destruction, the wonder of their achievements is almost overwhelming.

Yet their military organization was scarcely worth the name, though it was, doubtless, better than that of some of the other nations. They rarely acted in perfect concert as a great Confederacy; their warfare being commonly carried on by detached parties. They were in a chronic state of war. The inveterate pursuit of the Hurons, Eries and Andastes, for example, all of whom were valorous and mighty nations, forms an unexplained passage in their history. Any one of their warriors who might desire to avenge even a personal affront, or desired to distinguish himself in battle, might take the war path, followed by whomsoever he could attract to his cause. He first communicated his design to two intimate friends; if they approved it, an invitation was extended in their names to the warriors of the village to attend a feast of dog's flesh, which was always partaken of at such times. There the purpose was publicly proclaimed; the war dance and war songs were indulged in, and the leader hurled his hatchet into the war post. Any who chose joined him; and, after a night of gluttonous debauchery, the war party set out, decked in their finest apparel, and their faces hideously painted. They were accompanied on such occasions by the women, who took with them the old clothing of the warriors, and brought back the finery in which they marched forth. These expeditions generally provoked retaliation, when vengeance was wreaked on any of the offending nation with whom they came in contact. Consequently the history of Indian warfare is largely a record of daring deeds performed by individuals and small bands of warriors, who, ambushed and otherwise, constantly harassed their enemies, tortured their captives, and kept them in continual fear. This mode of warfare was what so distressed and decimated the American colonies in their early settlements.

The discipline and personal bravery of the Iroquois were adapted to the forests in which their warfare was most effective. In an open country, against a drilled and disciplined force of white soldiers, they were less to be dreaded. "Their true superiority was a moral one. They were in one of those transports of pride, self-confidence, and rage for ascendency which, in a savage people, marks an era of conquest.[1] They were proud, arrogant, vindictive, sagacious and subtle, esteeming themselves by nature as superior to other mankind." They styled themselves, "Onguehonwe," signifying, "men surpassing all others;" and great care was taken to instill this idea into the minds of their children.

The military status of the Iroquois is differently estimated by different authors; while it would scarcely be just to compare them with civilized armies, they would not, in many respects, suffer by such a comparison. De Witt Clinton awards them the following words of high praise: "They reduced war to a science, and all their movements were directed by system and policy. They never attacked a hostile country till they had sent out spies to explore and designate its vulnerable points, and when they encamped they observed the greatest circumspection to guard against surprise. Whatever superiority of force they might

[1] Parkman's Jesuits.

have, they never neglected the use of stratagem, employing all the crafty wiles of the Carthaginians. To produce death by the most protracted suffering was sanctioned among them by general immemorial usages."

The cruel and remorseless tortures inflicted by the Iroquois upon their captives forms a dark page in their history, while the fortitude and heroism with which they themselves endured such tortures is the marvel of civilization. Even women were not exempt from them; but let it be said to their credit that they never violated the persons of their female prisoners, however shameless were their practices among themselves.[1] Bancroft significantly says: "We call them cruel; but they never invented the thumbscrew, or the boot, or the rack, or broke on the wheel, or exiled bands of their nations for opinion's sake, and never protected the monopoly of a medicine man by the gallows, or the block, or by fire."

That the Iroquois were superior to other nations of their race in the western hemisphere, and even to the civilized races of Mexico and Peru, is proved by the average size of their brain, which, as found by Mr. Morton, averaged eighty-eight inches in five crania; this is within two inches of the Caucasian mean. Among this remarkable family were found the fullest development of Indian character and intelligence. "They unified and systematized the elements which, among other nations, were digressive and chaotic."

There were, also, strongly marked physical differences between the Indian tribes. The Iroquois were erect, commanding and dignified; they were reserved and haughty, cool, deliberate and cunning. Other nations, with different habits, were more nervous, social and excitable, and less commanding in figure. The causes of these differences are thus pointed out by Charles T. Hoffman, esq.: "The Pawnees, following the buffalo in his migrations, and having always plenty of animal food to subsist upon, are a much better fed and a larger race than those who find a precarious subsistence in the forest chase, while the woodland tribes, who, though not so plump in form, are of a more wiry and, perhaps, muscular make, have again a decided advantage in figure and gait over the fishing and trapping tribes of the northwest that pass most of their time in canoes. This difference in character and physical appearance between the different Indian tribes, or rather between those which have such different methods of gaining a livelihood, has not been sufficiently attended to by modern authors, though it did not escape the early French writers on this country. And yet, if habit have any effect in forming the character and temper of a rude people, it must of course follow that the savage who lives in eternal sunshine upon flowery plains, and hunts on horseback with a troop of tribesmen around him, must be a different being from the solitary deer-stalker who wanders through the dim forest, depending upon his single arm for subsistence for his wife and children."

The settlement of this continent by representatives of European nations, as hereafter further referred to, was alike the precurser of the downfall of the great Iroquois Confederacy and the ultimate entire extinction of the American Indian; a result due more to the individual character and mental structure of the conquered, than to any special defects in the organization of the Confederacy. They lacked the mental capacity and tractability to enable them to

[1] This forbearance towards female captives was probably the result of superstition, rather than an inherent heroic virtue, to which some writers ascribe it. Early writers bear abundant testimony of their unchastity. . . . Morgan, one of their most earnest advocates of the present day, admits that the passion of love among them had no other than an animal existence.—COLDEN, PARKMAN, and *Documentary History*.

adapt themselves to the conditions essential to their permanence among or adjacent to the new race. What might have been the result had the Indians been brought more, or even as much, in contact with the virtues of the Europeans, as with their vices, it profits nothing to inquire. As it was, their savage nature seems to have been intensified, rather than subdued or modified. While the labors of the early missionaries, heroic and unselfish as they were, undoubtedly had a good influence, their own records give ample evidence of the difficulties attending the conversion of the savages; instances of genuine and permanent conversion have been extremely rare. Father Gabriel Marest, a missionary of 1712, said: "It is necessary first to transform them into men, and afterwards to labor to make them Christians;" which epitomizes the whole problem; and it appears to have been easier to make a Christian of a man than a man of an Indian, in the sense intended by the missionary, Marest.

The large liberties granted by the peculiar Confederacy was an element of danger to a people given, as they were, to the gratification of their appetites and passions. Thus licensed and then brought in contact with the questionable policy of the Europeans towards them, the consequences could not well have been otherwise than what they were. Their decline may be said to have begun when their conquests ended. They soon fell into a hopeless dependency, without the means, and probably without the ambition or the desire, to oppose the rapid encroachments of the whites upon their domain. As early as 1753 their dissolution was foreshadowed, though it did not actually occur until about a quarter of a century later. At a conference with the Six Nations at Onondaga, September 8th, 1753, Colonel William Johnson thus addressed them: —

"Brethren of the Six Nations — It Grieves me sorely to find the road hither so grown up with weeds for want of being used, and your fire almost expiring at Onondaga, where it was agreed by the wisdom of our ancestors that it should never be extinguished. You know it was a saying among them that when the fire was out here you would be no longer a people. I am now Sent by Your Brother, the Governor, to clear the road, and make up the Fire with such wood as will never burn out, and I earnestly desire You would take care to keep it up, so as to be found always the same when he shall send among you. A belt.

"Brethren of the Six Nations — I have now renewed the Fire, swept and cleaned all your Rooms with a new White Wing, and leave it hanging near the fireplace, that you may use it for cleaning all dust, dirt, &c., which may have been brought in by strangers, no friends to You, or Us. A string of wampum.

"Brethren of the Six Nations — I am sorry to find on my arrivall among You that the fine Shady Tree which was planted by your forefathers for your ease and Shelter should be now leaning, almost blown down by northerly winds. I shall now endeavor to set it upright, that it may flourish as formerly while the roots spread abroad, so that when we sit or stand upon them You will not feel them shake, should any storm blow, then should You be ready to secure it. A belt.

"Brethren of the Six Nations — Your Fire now burns clearly at the old place. The Tree of shelter is set up and flourishes; I must now insist upon your quenching the Fire made with Brambles at Swegachey, and recall those to their proper home who have deserted thither; I cannot leave disswading you from goeing to Canada; the French are a delusive People, always endeavoring to divide you as much as they can, nor will they let slip any opportunity of makeing advantage of it. . . . . A large belt." — *Doc. History*, Vol. II., 653.

CHAPTER III.

INDIAN RELATIONS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK.

The Territory of Cortland County with Reference to the Indian Tribes — The Leni Lenape — Their Traditionary Origin — Their Relations with the Iroquois — The Peculiar Office Assigned Them — Final Supremacy of the Iroquois — Indian Villages — Their Personal Habits and Social Customs — Religious Beliefs, Marriages, Festivals, etc.

WHILE the territory with which we are chiefly interested in this work was, during its Indian occupation, a portion of the broad domain of the great Confederacy described in the preceding chapter, it is also true that, as far as history can inform us, no considerable Indian village was ever located within the present limits of Cortland county, and little of the bloody warfare which so long formed the principal occupation of the Five Nations occurred within its borders.[1] Our unbroken forests, umbrageous with luxuriant foliage in summer, and stretching their barren arms to the wintry blast on hillside and valley; the beautiful river that winds its way southward, and its many clear, spring-fed tributaries, once undoubtedly formed a favorite hunting and fishing ground of the Onondagas, while they escaped the bloody scenes in which the once powerful nation were often so prominent; the reason for this was almost wholly one of location. It is not improbable, moreover, that the hunters of the Leni Lenape, or Delawares, at one period in their history, followed the Tioughnioga as far northward as this. This nation, according to tradition, came from the far western part of the American continent, whence they migrated eastward to the Mississippi, where they fell in with the Iroquois, likewise proceeding eastward. On this side of the Mississippi the country was occupied by the Alligewi, a powerful nation who had many large towns, with fortifications of earth on the rivers flowing through their lands. They refused to allow the Lenape to settle in their country, but gave them permission to pass on eastward. Upon seeing the great numbers of the Lenape, however, they became alarmed and treacherously attacked those who had crossed the river and threatened with destruction all who attempted to cross. The Lenape, being to weak to force their passage against so powerful an enemy, made common cause with the Iroquois, and, after a number of sanguinary battles, the Alligewi, to avoid destruction, fled down the Mississippi and never returned to their abandoned country. This tradition was entertained also by the Mahicans (or Mohegans) who inhabited the

[1] The Wyoming Indians occasionally visited the valley, (Otselic) during the few first years after the settlement commenced. The Onondagas and Oneidas, also, made periodical visits. In 1796 forty of the Oneidas camped on the ground occupied by the Brick store (Cincinnatus); and during the fall and winter they killed forty-two bears.

They (Dr. Japheth Hunt and family, pioneers of Marathon) entered the valley of the Tioughnioga from the south, in canoes, in the year 1794, and located on a piece of land on the east side of the river, about a mile south of the village of Marathon. Upon this rising ground were discovered a great number of excavations or depressions, of a circular form in close proximity, rendering the surface of the ground uneven. Each of these depressions upon examination was found to contain human bones, which had apparently been deposited here for several preceding centuries. Upon removing the road a few years since from the top to the base of this hill, some of these depressions were opened by the plow, and were found to contain not only human bones, but several curiously carved vessels or pots, of a substance resembling clay, probably wrought by the Indians. — GOODWIN.

About one mile south of the village (of Marathon), on the east bank of the river, is the site of an old Indian village and burial ground. Tradition says that this was once the seat of a powerful tribe of Indians. — *French's* [illegible]

We are informed by old residents of Cincinnatus that bands of Onondagas visited that town every summer for many years, and as late as 1820; that they tilled small pieces of ground, hunted and exchanged venison with the settlers for bread; and that there was a burial ground not far from the present village of Cincinnatus.

country immediately east of the Hudson river, and were, according to Heckwelder's *Historical Account of the Five Nations*, a branch of the Lenape family. The tradition continues that the Iroquois and the Lenape dwelt together for a long period in their conquered territory, rapidly increasing in numbers. Finally some of the Lenape hunters and warriors crossed the mountains to the Atlantic, discovering on their way the Delaware and the Susquehanna rivers. Upon their return they gave so favorable an account of the new country, that it led to the belief among the nation that it was destined by the Great Spirit for their occupation. They accordingly migrated thither, making their central possessions on the Delaware. There they divided themselves into three tribes — the Turtle, the Turkey and the Wolf — named in their language the Unamis, the Unalachtgos and the Minsis. The first two chose the country nearest the sea, for settlement, while the latter located to the northward between them and the Iroquois, their territory originally extending from the headwaters of the Delaware and Susquehanna southward to the mountainous regions of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and from the Hudson river west and southwest beyond the Susquehanna.

Whatever may or may not be true of this tradition, the territory just alluded to was formerly occupied by a branch of this nation, who eventually became parties to the treaty made by William Penn. The Delawares dwelt at peace with the Iroquois for many years; but at length the Iroquois, growing more numerous and powerful, became distrustful of their neighbors, whose numbers were also rapidly increasing, and endeavored to involve them in difficulties, especially with the Cherokees, then occupying the banks of the Ohio river and its branches. Between these and the Delawares a bloody war ensued. The treachery of the Iroquois was finally discovered by the Delawares and they resolved to seek revenge by the extermination of the Iroquois nation. So strong were their prospects of success that the Iroquois were impelled to resort to strategy as a means of terminating the conflict; otherwise they were fearful that "their extirpation would be inevitable."[1] Heckwelder even attributes to the severity of these wars the formation of the great Iroquois league.

The plans of the Iroquois were to pacify the Delawares (characterized by Marryat, in his *Diary of America* as their most formidable enemy) by urging upon them the novel proposition that they should assume the office of *women*,[2] in which they should act as mediators and judges among their warlike neighbors, leaving the Iroquois to devote their entire energies to conquering their enemies, the French. They, therefore, sent the following message to the Delawares: "It is not profitable that all nations should be at war with each other; for this will at length be the ruin of the whole Indian race. We have, therefore, considered of a remedy by which the evil will be prevented. One nation shall be the *woman*. We will place her in the midst, and the other nations who make war shall be the man and live around the woman; no one shall touch or hurt the woman, and if any one does it, we will immediately say to him, why do you beat the woman? Then all the men shall fall upon him who has beaten her. The woman shall not go to war, but endeavor to keep peace with all. Therefore, if the men who surround her beat each other, and the war be carried on with vio-

[illegible] p. [illegible] N. p. 124.

[2] Wars between these savage nations were never terminated except through the interposition of women, whose prerogative it was to demand a cessation of hostilities. The men, however, tired of war, maintained a persistent hostile attitude; they considered it an evidence of cowardice to intimate a desire for peace. — HECKWELDER.

lence, the woman shall have the right of addressing them. 'Ye men, what are ye about? Why do ye beat each other? We are almost afraid. Consider that your wives and children must perish, unless ye desist. Do ye mean to destroy yourselves from the face of the earth?' The men shall then hear and obey the woman."[1]

This appeal to the magnanimity of the Delawares was a high tribute to their character for valor and integrity, as well as a skillful and ingenious one on the part of the Iroquois. A weak or vacillating nation could not have undertaken such a work. Unhappily they accepted the proposal, that was to rob them of their power in war, "which had," according to Heckwelder, "exalted them above all the other Indian nations."

Upon the assent of the Delawares to the proposition of the Iroquois, the latter ordered a bounteous feast at which their dupes were solemnly installed into their novel office as women, with an exhortation counseling them among other things, to henceforth make agriculture their employment and means of subsistence. This singular treaty is supposed to have taken place near the site of Albany, between the years 1609 and 1620. The treaty was participated in by the Dutch, and "by it," says Moulton, "the Dutch secured for themselves the quiet possession of the Indian trade, and the Five Nations obtained the means to assert that ascendency which they ever after maintained over the other native tribes, and to inspire terror far and near among the other savages of North America."

Whether or not these traditions are worthy of full credence, it is certain that the relative positions of the Delawares and the Iroquois were reversed, as to their military *status*, the former being looked to for the preservation of peace. While these proceedings, resulting in the Delawares being forced to submit to the humiliation of being made "women," have been generally assumed by writers to be true, several have labored to refute what they believed to be a gross error; notable among these are Ruttenber, in his *Indian Tribes of the Hudson's River* and Heckwelder, p. 44, 45.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary war the Delawares, who in 1763 had numbered six hundred warriors, were divided; the greater portion of them having migrated across the mountains to the Ohio river, where they located at Muskingham. They were drawn into that war and their numbers so reduced that "they lost all desire of becoming a civilized people," although the Moravian missionaries labored long and faithfully among them. They participated in numerous attacks upon the western frontier posts, having joined Pontiac; but a peace was established with them in 1765 and they were gradually followed across the mountains by their brethren, so that by the year 1786, according to Lossing, there was not a Delaware east of the Alleghanies. In 1818 they ceded all their lands to the United States. The vestiges of the Delawares are now in the Indian Territory, whence they furnished one hundred and seventy soldiers to the Union cause during the war of the rebellion; let that fact stand to their lasting credit, whether or not they ever visited the valley of the Tioughnioga to any considerable extent.[1]

[1] Lossing, part I, ch. X, p. 124.

[1] Goodwin, in his *History of Cortland County*, relates a "legend of the Tioughnioga," for which he claimed "authority and corroborating facts sufficient to entitle it to a place in history," to the effect that a small settlement of the Lenape Indians was once made near the mouth of Cold brook, in the present town of Homer; this was early in the sixteenth century, and they came to this valley in quest of quiet repose where they might peacefully pursue the chase. Here they suffered from the incursions of the "Mingoes," until finally they were impelled to cry out for revenge. Their old chief was disabled and infirm, and he therefore, called young "Ke-no-tah," whom he counseled in a speech to take his place at the head of

Before passing on to events that followed upon European settlement, it will be interesting to refer briefly to some of the social customs, domestic habits, religious and superstitious beliefs, festivals, games, etc., of this people who were once the sole human occupants of this soil that now blossoms under the hand of civilization. It has been written that, "while hopelessly unchanging in respect to individual and social development, the Indian was, as regarded tribal relations and social haunts, mutable as the wind."[1] Their villages and habitations were constantly subject to changes made desirable on account of the results of their wars, or to remove beyond the reach of possibly dangerous neighbors, or to occupy more desirable lands for their primitive agriculture. The extermination of game, too, had its influence in this respect. Some of the Iroquois nations, however, had villages which had more the appearance and character of permanency. Of these the Senecas, who occupied the most fertile portion of the State, were most conspicuous and carried their agriculture to the greatest perfection. General Sullivan reported that, in 1779, the "Indian town of Genesee contained 128 houses, mostly large and elegant. It was beautifully situated, encircled by a clear flat extending a number of miles, over which fields of corn were waving, together with every kind of vegetable *that could be conceived of*." In Stone's *Life of Brant*, the author says "they had many towns and large villages laid out with considerable regularity. They had framed houses, some of them well finished, having chimneys and painted; they had broad and productive fields." This is contrary to the often entertained opinion. Their ordinary dwellings differed in shape and size, but were generally about thirty feet square and nearly as high. The sides were formed of hickory saplings set in two parallel rows and bent inward, thus forming an arch. To these, transverse poles were bound and the whole covered with bark held in

the warriors and attack their enemies. The choice was ratified by a council of the braves. The aged sachem had a beautiful daughter named "Altahalah," who had been promised in marriage to Kenotah. One day before the departure of the war party, three savages from among their enemies appeared at the old chief's cabin and demanded the surrender of their village. Hearing this Altahalah bounded away to Kenotah and informed him of the event. He met the three ambassadors, and such was the power of his eloquence before them that they quailed, and left the village muttering curses of vengeance. The following night the Mingoes came and attacked the village. A fierce and bloody contest ensued, resulting in the success of the Lenape; but the old chieftain was found by his daughter dead upon the field. While she was bending over his cold form, a powerful savage stealthily crept to her side, seized her in his arms and quickly disappeared in the thick forest. The shriek of the maiden aroused the warriors and pursuit was immediately made and continued through the night, when all traces of the trail were lost. When the last rites were paid to the dead, Kenotah gathered the remainder of his warriors about him, took their lead and again started in pursuit of the captors of his bride. For weeks and months their weary search was pursued, but without avail. At last one evening, during a violent thunder storm, the pursuers saw their enemies, by a flash of lightning, sleeping at the bottom of a ravine; but the maiden was not with them. Awaiting another vivid flash of lightning, Kenotah and his braves fell upon their enemies and left them all dead upon the ground. Kenotah called in vain for Altahalah, and the thought that she was wandering alone in the forest drove him to the verge of madness and despair. The valley of the Tioughnioga was deserted. The Lenape had abandoned their homes made desolate by the Mingoes and joined the "Monceys," whose council fires burned at Minisink, on the Delaware river. One evening at some undefined subsequent date, a beautiful Indian maiden might have been seen sitting on the bank of "her native river" (according to the legend), her loosened hair hanging in long braids over her unclad shoulders, while she sweetly sang her lover's favorite song. Anon she gazed down the river and presently heard the light sound of dipping oars. A moment more and she beheld the white plume of her affianced. Kenotah had found his bride.

This is a pretty enough legend; but if the author had "various corroborating facts derived from the traditions of the early Indian occupants of the Wyoming valley, to clothe it with a garb of undoubted reality," it is much to be regretted that such facts and other details as to its source were not given with the story; if absolutely true, it would stand as, perhaps, the only real evidence that a permanent Indian village was ever located in the Tioughnioga valley within the limits of Cortland county.

[1] Parkman.

place by smaller poles fastened to the frame-work by strips of linden bark. An open space a foot wide extending along the peak served as both window and chimney. Scaffolds or bunks were arranged along the sides and covered with skins, for sleeping places, beneath which was stored firewood, etc. In cold weather the inmates slept huddled together about the fires, ranged through the center of the house. In some of the larger structures the sides were formed of upright posts, and the roofs of separate poles. The Iroquois followed this general mode of building until comparatively recent times.

The Indian towns were commonly but a confused mass of houses arranged with little regard to order and covering from one to ten acres; they were often fortified and situations favorable to defense were always chosen. The fortifications were constructed of timber palisades, against which earth embankments were thrown up. The large quantities of timber used in the fortifications left the many clearings which were afterwards devoted to agriculture.

The staple article of food with the Iroquois was corn, "cooked without salt in a variety of different ways," each, says Parkman, "more odious than the last." Corn thus cooked with beans was one of their dainties. Their bread, an article of daily consumption, was of inferior quality and made of corn. Dog flesh was held in high esteem; venison a luxury for feasts, for which captive bears were also sometimes fattened. The cooking previous to the advent of the French fur-traders, who supplied them with copper kettles, was done in earthen pots which were made by the women. The women spun twine, also, from native hemp, by rolling it on their thighs, from which to make their fishing nets; and they pounded the corn in huge mortars of wood hollowed out by alternate burnings and scrapings. The women performed the household drudgery and worked in the fields. To the men belonged the work of making implements of war and the chase, building canoes of bark or by hollowing out logs.

The dress of both women and men consisted of skins of various kinds, worn in the shape of kilts, or in doublets thrown over the shoulders. These were subsequently superseded by a kind of coarse cloth procured of the whites. The rich wore a piece of black, blue or red cloth, about two yards long, fastened around their waists and ornamented with ribbons and wampum. The poor were content with a bear skin; these were also worn by all classes in the winter, or, instead, a kind of pelisse, made of beaver skins. Stockings and shoes were made of deer and elk skins; some wore shoes made of corn husks. The garment which was most worn by the women was a sort of petticoat of cloth about two yards long wound about the hips and tightly fastened, falling a little below the knee; this was worn day and night. Women of rank wore fine under-garments with red collars.

All Indians were fond of ornamentation, the women especially so; in their decorations consisted their wealth and they also designated their rank. The men paid particular attention to their wives' ornamentation and thought it scandalous to appear the better dressed.

Much pains was taken in painting their faces and in some cases in tattooing almost their entire bodies. Each day their faces received a fresh coating, of which vermilion was the favorite color. A piece of gold, silver or wampum was sometimes worn in a hole pierced through the cartilage of the nose, while from their ears, stretched and distended by heavy ornaments, depended rings, sparkling stones, feathers, corals or crosses. The hair was also often thus decorated, and was worn by the women at full length, often reaching below their hips.

They anointed it with bear's grease to make it shine. The women of the Delawares, according to Loskiel, never braided or plaited their hair; it was folded and tied round with a piece of cloth, and sometimes rolled up and a serpent's skin wrapped around it. The men did not wear their hair long, and sometimes pulled it out except a little on the crown of the head. This was often ornamented with plumes. The Iroquois studied and practiced ornamentation and dress more than any other Indian nation.

Marriage among the Iroquois was indulged in early in life; often at eighteen by the men and fourteen by the women. The ceremony was of the simplest character, usually consisting of a present from the suitor and its acceptance by the bride; she returned a dish of boiled maize and an arm ful of fuel. Divorces were attended by even less ceremony; the most trivial causes were sufficient for a separation. While monogamy was the rule, polygamy was tolerated, especially among the chiefs. Provisional, or experimental, marriages were common and usually of short duration; they were entered into in the same manner as the permanent marriage, through the presentation and acceptance of gifts. A woman thus sometimes accumulated a handsome fortune in wampum and the like, before she was really settled in life. This sort of matrimony was no bar to a license, boundless and apparently universal, unattended with loss of reputation on either side.[1]

Although the Indians were taciturn, morose and cruel in their warlike expeditions, in their own homes they were extremely social, patient and forbearing, engaging in their festal seasons in a continuous round of dancing, feasting and gambling. The latter pastime was constantly indulged in, the stakes often involving all the worldly property of the players. One of the devices used was a number of plum-stones, the sides of which were flattened and one side of each painted black; these were thrown up from a wooden bowl, and the betting was upon the number of black or white sides that would fall uppermost. This game possessed for them a wonderful fascination, two entire villages sometimes entering the contest. Their dances were to the sole music of a sort of drum made by stretching a deer skin over one end of a hollow log. The common dance was held in a large house or in an open field around a fire. The men shouted in this and leaped and stamped violently, showing their wonderful agility; but the women observed the utmost decorum, never speaking a word to the men; they kept their bodies upright and straight and their arms hanging loosely at their sides. This kind of dancing is still indulged in by the Onondagas. Other dances were participated in by the men only; and others still were adapted to special occasions. Chief among these was the dance of peace, or dance of the calumet, in which the pipe was handed around. A song, devoted especially to this ceremony, was sung by all. The war-dance was also a prominent ceremony, following the return of a war party. It was often thrilling in the extreme; but its details need not be given here.

Feasting was often indulged and sometimes participated in by whole villages, upon the invitation of some especially prodigal host. To refuse an invitation to such a feast was considered a grave offense, and the debauchery sometimes continued throughout the entire day, being interspersed with singing, jesting, laughing and smoking. If the feast partook of a medical character, as was sometimes the case, it was incumbent upon the guest to eat all that was placed before him, even if he died in the effort. Should he fail, the host would

[1] Parkman's *Jesuits*.

be outraged, the community shocked and the spirits rise in vengeance; disaster would befall the nation. If the guest, however, found himself utterly unable to swallow his portion, there was one way out of the dilemma; another of the company, upon being rewarded with a present, might finish the meal.

The God of the Iroquois was called "Hawenniio," meaning, "he rules — he is master;" and their belief in immortality was almost universal. Animals, even, were immortal and were worshiped. The Iroquois had, also, another God, with equal claims to supremacy with the one mentioned. He was called "Areskoui," the god of war. A third deity was "Tarenyowagon," whose place and character is not well defined. He has by some been identified with "Hiawatha," to whom the Iroquois ascribe their great Confederation. They also had numerous objects, animate and inanimate, to which were attributed supernatural powers and were supplicated. These were called by the Iroquois "Okies," and by the Algonquins, "Manitous." They existed throughout the world and controlled the destinies of the Indians. For the most part they took the form of animals. Each Indian had his guardian "Manitou," to whom he looked for counsel, guidance and protection. The points of the compass were also looked upon as "Manitous;" there was a Summer-Maker and a Winter-Maker, the latter being kept at bay by throwing brands of fire into the air. The hunter endeavored to propitiate the game he pursued, and was often known to address a wounded bear in a long harangue before dispatching him. This was also true of fish. Says Parkman: "The fish were addressed (by the fishing party) every evening, by one chosen for that duty, who exhorted them to take courage and be caught, assuring them that the utmost respect should be paid to their bones." The fishing-nets were also objects of solicitude, and that they might the better do their work, they were married every year to two young girls, with a ceremony far more formal than that observed in human wedlock.

The Iroquois had five different festivals annually. The first was held in the spring, after the close of sugar-making, and was in gratitude for the abundance of the sap. The aged chiefs exhorted the young men to lives of virtue as a road to a continuance of the favor. It closed with dancing, singing and games.

The second festival occurred immediately after corn-planting, when thanks were given for the favorable seed-time and the Great Spirit invoked to grant a good crop.

The third was the well-known green corn feast, when thanks were rendered for the valuable gift, and immense quantities of the young corn was cooked in various ways and eaten. Songs and dances formed a large portion of the accompanying ceremonies, closing with the famous succotash dance.

The fourth festival was held at the close of the corn harvest, and was one of thankfulness for the crop, followed by festivities. To these festivals three days were formerly set apart for each; latterly, one day only has been given to each.

The fifth and crowning festival of the year was held late in January or early in February, immediately after the return of the hunters from the chase; it was celebrated with great pomp and ceremony. When the preliminary preparations had been made, runners were dispatched to every cabin in the nation to give notice of the event. The fires were put out in all the cabins, each of which was then visited and purified by persons appointed for that purpose, who scattered the ashes, swept the hearth and rekindled the fire. On the sec-

ond day the managers of the festival visited each house to receive the gifts of the people, consisting of articles of food, incense or sacrifice. This was continued for several days, during which time the assemblage at the council-house engaged in sports. On the day preceding the last, preparations were made for the great sacrifice. The gifts which had been collected were presented separately by the giver to the master of ceremonies, and hung around the council-room. The sins of the people, supposed to have been conveniently transferred to the managers, were in turn transferred to two persons dressed in white, and from them to two white dogs, which had been previously fantastically painted with red figures, and decorated with wampum, ribbons and feathers, and killed by strangulation. The dogs were taken to the council-house, laid upon a platform amid the most devout solemnity, and afterwards taken to the fire and each in turn thrown into it. This act was preceded by prayer and song. The multitude around the fire threw baskets of herbs, tobacco, etc., upon the burning carcasses, which were entirely consumed. A convenient and enjoyable method of disposing of the year's sins of the tribe.

The prevailing readiness of the Indian to believe in the supernatural led to the existence in every community of numbers of medicine-men, sorcerers and the like, who professed to control the spirits, cure disease and protect their patrons from various other ills. They thus obtained a powerful influence over the minds of their fellows. The Indian doctors could cure wounds and had methods not devoid of virtue for the relief of simple diseases. One of these was the sweating oven, an earthen arch into which the patient crawled to undergo perspiration from the heat of stones piled about the oven. From this he was plunged into a bath of cold water. Beaver's oil was much used, also; but their principal reliance for the cure of disease was magic and mysticism. Disease was supposed to arise from supernatural causes; so the patient was pinched, beaten, surrounded by deafening noises and incantations, to drive out the evil spirits. These, together with dancing, singing, feasting and the accompanying din in the cabin of the patient, were believed to be sufficient for a cure, if he were not beyond hope. It would seem that such a process would either cure a patient or place him beyond the reach of mortal cares.

Divination and sorcery prevailed to a wonderful extent and was implicitly trusted by all. The sorcerers professed to be able to penetrate the future, and many momentous measures were inaugurated upon their predictions. They made sacrifices to the ruling spirits whom they wished to propitiate. Dreams, too, were the guiding oracles with many of the Indians and caused a great deal of their misery and misfortune. Their duty, their destiny, war and peace, rain and drought, all were revealed by a class of professional dreamers and interpreters. But witchcraft (purely) was held in the utmost abhorrence and was punishable with death in all cases. A witch might be killed by any one on sight, with impunity. As late as 1805, two witches (so-called) were tomahawked by Hon Yost, at Oneida.

The most ancient method of burial among the Iroquois was to first place the corpse upon a scaffold about eight feet high and allow it to lie there until the flesh decomposed and fell away from the bones, which were then interred. Latterly and after their contact with the whites, the corpse has been clad, a grave dug about three feet deep and lined with bark and the body laid therein. Beside it were placed a kettle of provisions, deer-skin and sinews with which to replace the moccasins which, it was believed, would be worn out in the long journey to the spirit

land, bows and arrows, a tomahawk, knife and sometimes a gun. The grave was then filled with earth upon which the women knelt and wept. After a little time the men began a doleful cry and solemnly returned homeward.

"With the Delawares," says Loskiel, "the first degree of mourning in a widow consists in her sitting down in the ashes near the fire and weeping most bitterly; she then rises and runs to the grave, where she makes loud lamentations, returning again to her seat in the ashes. She will neither eat, drink, nor sleep and refuses all consolation. But after some time she suffers herself to be persuaded to arise, drink some rum and receive some comfort. However, she must attend to the second degree of mourning for a whole year; that is, to dress without any ornaments and wash herself but seldom. As soon as she appears decent, combs and anoints her hair, and washes herself clean, it is considered a sign that she wishes to marry again." Funeral and burial ceremonies differed considerably with different Indian nations.

The wampum of the Indians not only served as a currency, but was used as an ornament and as the public archives. This fact rendered it of great importance to them. It was of two kinds—purple or black, and white, the black being estimated at twice the value of the white. The purple was made from the inner portions of the conch, and the white from the pillar of the periwinkle; both kinds were fashioned into round or oval beads about a quarter of an inch long and perforated; they were then strung on a fibre of deer sinew, and latterly on a linen thread. As a substitute for gold and silver its value was fixed by law, but its valuation was subject to variation, at different times and in different places. Three purple beads were equal to a stiver in Dutch, or an English penny, each equal to two cents of United States currency. The price of a string six feet long, called a fathom of wampum, was held at five shillings in New England. Previous to the advent of the whites wampum was largely made of small bits of wood of equal size and stained black or white; its manufacture from shells was difficult for the Indians; but the Dutch introduced the lathe in its manufacture, and by supplying a far superior article, soon practically controlled the trade. It was made principally at Hackensack, N. J. Porcelain and glass imitations soon became abundant, which may have been the first example of counterfeiting in America.

The most important use to which wampum was applied was in the confirmation of compacts and treaties between nations, both Indian and European; feathers had been used in early days. Every speech, and its principal parts, were made valid by a string or belt of wampum. A black belt signified a warning against evil, and if it was marked in red and had a hatchet of white wampum in the center, it meant war. Black or purple always signified some matter of grave importance, while white was the symbol of peace.

Hospitality among the Iroquois was the most generous, not only among their own kindred, but was extended towards the stranger with equal freedom; it was regarded as a sacred duty from which none were exempt. Whoever refused relief to any one was guilty of a grave offense and made himself liable to revenge from the offended. An instance is related by Loskiel in which a party of two hundred warriors of the Huron nation, who had taken the war path against the Delawares, were led to give up their purpose by the generous hospitality tendered them by the latter. No evidence is wanting to show that this trait in the breast of the savage Indian was at least as prominent as among those who now occupy his once wild home.

CHAPTER IV.

EUROPEAN DISCOVERIES AND SETTLEMENTS.

Jacob Cabot at Newfoundland. — [illegible] Discoveries in St. Lawrence River. Ponce de Leon's Discovery of Florida. — Spanish Discoveries. — Cortereal. — Verazzani on the North. — Settlement at Quebec — English Settlement at Jamestown — Establishment of Dutch Settlements on the Hudson River — Claims of Rival Nations — Arrival of the Jesuits — Champlain's First Meeting with the Indians — The Iroquois — Indian Wars. — Extension of the French Power. — Fort Massachusetts. — Wars between England and France and their Negotiations with the Indians — Attack on Montreal — Expedition Planned by Frontenac — Burning of Schenectady — Treaty of Utrecht — The Iroquois in the Carolinas.

THE history of the locality of which the territory under consideration in this work forms one of the prominent divisions extends back to a remote period of the past, and is intimately associated with the early discoveries and settlements of civilized people on this continent. While there are evidences that the surrounding region was visited by civilized races a century before the landing of the Pilgrims and almost as long before the first permanent Dutch settlements on the Hudson River, it is not deemed essential to more than refer to the faint historical landmarks from so remote a period. Let us, rather, follow the course of discovery, settlement and claim on this side of the Atlantic, from the time when the resolute little band of Puritans disembarked from the *Mayflower*. The relations of this region to the European powers were at that time of a very indefinite character. James I was on the throne of England and Louis XIII on that of France, with Richelieu as his prime minister. A century and a quarter previous, and five years after the bold voyage of Columbus, in 1497, John Cabot discovered Newfoundland and portions of the adjacent country. Three years later the coast of Labrador and the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence were explored by two brothers from Portugal, named Cortreal. In 1508 the St. Lawrence river was discovered by Aubert, and four years later, in 1512, Ponce de Leon discovered Florida. In 1534 the St. Lawrence was explored by the Frenchman, Jacques Cartier, as far as Montreal. In 1539 Florida was explored by Ferdinand de Soto. These discoveries opened up the new country for active competition by the different maritime powers of the Old World. Spain conquered Mexico in 1521 and in 1540 carried her conquests into Peru. Stimulated by her success and her greed, she took possession of Florida and the Gulf territory, and in 1565 planted the first Spanish colony in North America, at St. Augustine, Florida.

In the mean time the French were gaining a foothold far to the northward. In 1540 Cartier, having sailed up the broad river to which he gave the name of the illustrious saint, had returned to France and was again sent over with Jean Francis de Robarval, who was appointed by the king as lieutenant-general over the new countries. In 1543 Robarval came the second time from France, with the pilot, Jean Alphonse of Saintouge, and they took possession of Cape Breton; settlement was also begun at Quebec. In 1608 Quebec was founded and placed under the governorship of Champlain, the original discoverer of the Iroquois Indians. In the previous year, 1607, the English made their first permanent settlement at Jamestown, under Capt. John Smith. In 1609 Henry Hudson, a bold English navigator, but then in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, sailed into the noble river which now bears his name, leading to the permanent settlement of the

Dutch in that region in 1623, in a colony which they named New Netherlands. Thus three European nations laid claims to portions of the territory now embraced in the State of New York and formed the advance guard of the present dominant inhabitants of the continent.

England, by virtue of the discovery of Cabot, who sailed under letters patent from Henry VII, and that of his son Sebastian made the following year, exploring the coast from Newfoundland to Florida, claimed a territory eleven degrees in width and extending westward indefinitely. Had the powers of England known what a boundless expanse of rich and undiscovered country lay to the westward of her explorations, it is possible that even she would have been prompted by modesty from claiming so wide a water-front "extending indefinitely westward."

France claimed a portion of the Atlantic coast; while Holland, by virtue of Hudson's discovery, claimed the country from Cape Cod to the southern shore of Delaware bay. In 1614 the Dutch established a fort on Manhattan island and one at Albany in the following year, becoming the actual possessors of the soil. In 1621 the Dutch East India Company was formed and took possession of New Amsterdam. In 1625 a few of that remarkable order known as Jesuits arrived on the banks of the St. Lawrence, and in time crowded most other Catholic missionaries out of Canada and the lake region, substantially monopolizing the territory. In 1627 Cardinal Richelieu organized the company of New France, or the company of a Hundred Partners, the objects of which were proclaimed to be the extension of the fur trade, the discovery of a new route to China, and the conversion of the Indians. "The Company actually succeeded in extending the fur trade, but not in going to China by way of Lake Erie, and not to any great extent in converting the Indians.[1] By the terms of their charter they were to transport six thousand emigrants to Canada and to furnish them with an ample supply of both priests and artisans. Champlain was made Governor. His early experience was not the most pleasant or gratifying. When the French first assumed prominence in Canada they found the Iroquois and the Adirondacks at war, as before stated, and they espoused the cause of the latter, supplying them with fire-arms. Champlain and his allies met, on the lake which now bears his name, a party of two hundred Iroquois; both parties landed and a battle began; but the murderous and mysterious effect of the new weapons filled the Iroquois with consternation and they retreated to the wilderness. This was the first meeting of the famed Iroquois with the whites; and, while it was an impressive and thrilling reception, it was scarcely calculated to inspire in the savage breast a very exalted opinion of the invaders, except as to their ability to kill at long range.

Emboldened by success, Champlain with a few Frenchmen and a force of four hundred Hurons, renewed hostilities against the Iroquois in 1615, resulting in that remarkable expedition directed against the stronghold of the Onondagas. The expedition proceeded to the upper waters of the Ottawa river, thence crossed over to Lake Nipissing, and, having discovered Lake Huron, were joined by the nation of that name. They came down through the lakes and across the country until they reached the Iroquois fort, which was attacked. The assaulting party were defeated and compelled to retreat from the locality. The location of this fort has long been in dispute; some have placed it upon the banks of Onondaga lake, but the generally accepted opinion now is that it stood on the shore of Oneida lake.

[1] Johnson's *History of Lee County*.

A dreary winter was passed by Champlain, who had been wounded by two Onondaga arrows, "one in the leg and the other in the knee," before he was able to leave the Hurons and go back to Quebec. These attacks upon the Iroquois provoked a war which ended only with the extinction of French dominion in North America. The Iroquois, now also armed with guns, made their power felt on every battle-field. Bancroft says upon this subject: "Thrice did Champlain invade their country, until he was driven with disgrace from the wilderness. The Five Nations in return attempted the destruction of New France. Though repulsed they continued to defy the province and its allies, and under the eyes of its governor openly intercepted convoys destined for Quebec. The French authority was not confirmed by the founding of a feeble outpost at Montreal, and Fort Richelieu at the mouth of Sorrel river scarcely protected its immediate environs. The Iroquois scoured every wilderness to lay it more waste. Depopulating the whole country on the Ontario, they attained an acknowledged superiority over New France. The colony was in perpetual danger and Quebec itself was besieged."

In the year 1653 each of the Five Nations entered into peace treaties, which left the colonists for a time at rest; but the Iroquois meanwhile invaded the territory of the Eries and, after a severe contest, assaulted that nation in a fort and wiped them from the face of the earth. This was followed by a long war upon the Andastes, or Guyandots, lasting until 1675, in which the Iroquois were finally victorious.

Of the three rival bands of colonists the French and Dutch developed a thriving fur trade with the Indians, spreading rapidly among them at the same time both kinds of fire-arms — rum and guns; while the English devoted themselves more to agriculture. In 1664 the English conquered New Amsterdam, and their conquest was made permanent in 1670, its name being changed to New York. With few exceptions, the Iroquois remained the firm allies of the English until the latter were defeated in the war of the Revolution. But from the time of the English supremacy over the Dutch, a spirited rivalry was kept up between the French and English. The former were indefatigable in extending the fur trade, and their missionaries hesitated at no obstacle, opposition or hardship in carrying the cross among the Indians. In 1642 Father Jogues, commissioned as an envoy, was hospitably received by the Mohawks and he offered the friendship of France to the Onondagas. During the temporary peace with the French, Father Simon Le Moyne appeared as a missionary among the Onondagas, which became one of the most important mission fields on the continent. It was the policy of the Jesuits to not alone convert the savages to Christianity; indeed, it may be doubted if that was their chief motive in coming among them. They came not alone to extend the church, but also to conciliate the Indians towards the French through the medium of the church, enabling the latter to extend the power and dominion of that country. While they found it comparatively easy to make friends and some converts among the less biased tribes in other sections of the country, they found in the Onondagas a nation shrewd, wily and strong, more so, perhaps, than their brethren of the Confederacy, who felt no inclination to favor the French and little towards Christianity through the medium of French priests.

Onondaga was the center of the great Confederacy, the place of meeting of all their great councils; where gathered the sachems and chiefs and warriors of the Five Nations to discuss and settle the most im-

portant questions and public measures. Hence it was viewed by the Jesuits as the field above all others for their work; and they labored faithfully in that locality. If they were not signally successful, it must be credited more to the capacity and condition of those whom they sought to influence, than to their own want of persistence, energy and heroism.

By 1665 French trading posts were established at Michillimacinac, Green Bay, Chicago and St. Joseph, and the French resolved to put an end to the frequent incursions of the Iroquois. In June of that year M. de Tracy was appointed Viceroy of the French possessions in America and landed at Quebec with four regiments of infantry. In September Daniel de Rany, Knight, Lord de Courcelles, who had received the appointment of Governor of Canada six months previously, arrived with a regiment, some families and the necessary means for the establishment of a colony. Courcelles, with a force of five hundred men, started on an expedition into the Mohawk country on the 9th of January, 1666. After a dangerous march of thirty-five days on snow-shoes, in which his men suffered severely by freezing, he arrived within twenty leagues of the Mohawk villages, only to learn that most of the Mohawks and Oneidas were absent on a war expedition. On the 22d of May, 1666, the Senecas sent ten ambassadors to Quebec to sue for peace, with a request that they be considered as faithful subjects of the French king, and that Frenchmen be sent to settle among them and "Blackgowns" to preach to them. A treaty to this effect was concluded on the 25th of May, which was ratified by the Mohawks and Oneidas on the 12th of July. During these negotiations a party of Mohawks made an assault upon the garrison at Fort St. Anne, which was retaliated by M. de Tracy through another incursion into the Mohawk country; but his wily foe fled, leaving only their empty villages to be burned by the French soldiers.

On the 13th of October, 1666, the Iroquois ambassadors of the Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas and Oneidas visited Quebec and requested a confirmation of the continuance of the king's protection, under a treaty involving several conditions; in the consequent treaty the Mohawks afterwards acquiesced. In 1667 (July 31) the peace of Breda was established between Holland, England and France, and in the following year a treaty was signed between France and Spain. But the general peace thus inaugurated was of short duration; the Iroquois were soon again in conflict with the French, causing them much suffering, loss of harvests and constant dread. But after the appointment of Count de Frontenac as Governor and Lieutenant-General of Canada in April, 1672, confidence was restored through his conservative management, and another peace treaty was ratified in 1673.

In 1684 the Senecas again began hostilities against the French, by the capture of seven hundred traders' canoes and an attack upon Fort St. Louis. For this outrage M. de la Barre, then Governor of New France, planned an expedition against the Senecas. Upon learning, however, that Col. Dongan, Governor of New York, had promised the Senecas a reinforcement of four hundred horse and an equal number of foot soldiery, the expedition was suddenly abandoned and a treaty made "with indecent haste" with the Onondagas, Oneidas and Cayugas. This event caused the deposal of M. de la Barre, who was superseded by the Marquis de Nonville, with instructions to observe strict neutrality. After a thorough examination of the situation De Nonville communicated to his king that the only way to protect their fur trade and retain their possessions was through a successful war.

This counsel was acted upon and reinforcements sent out. In the summer of 1687 he arrived on an expedition, with nearly two thousand French and five hundred Indian allies, at Irondequoit Bay, near the site of Rochester, whence he marched against the Seneca villages. Defeated in an attack upon the French force on the march, the Senecas burned their villages and fled to the Cayugas. De Nonville destroyed their stores of corn; but these being immediately replaced by the other Confederate nations, little was really accomplished by the expedition, except to further enrage the Iroquois. After building a fort at the mouth of the Niagara river, the Governor with most of his forces returned to Montreal. Alarmed at this bold incursion into the strongest portion of their country by so superior a force, the Iroquois appealed to Gov. Dongan for protection. He advised them to not make peace with the French and promised them reinforcements. De Nonville, however, called a meeting of the chiefs of the Five Nations at Montreal, for peace negotiations, and the Indians decided to send representatives thither.

In 1687, while the French and English were at peace, the New York colonists determined to participate in the valuable fur trade of the northwest. To carry out this project they induced the Iroquois to liberate several Huron captives to act as guides. The party was led by Major McGregory and was intercepted by a body of French, captured and their goods given over to the Indians. The lake Indians had favored the project of the English colonists; but after this disaster were anxious to disabuse the minds of the French of that fact. To that end Adario, a celebrated Wyandot chief, with a party of one hundred warriors, marched against the Iroquois. On the way they were informed of the peace negotiations before alluded to and were advised by the commander of Fort Cadaraqui (Ontario, or Niagara) to give up their mission. As such action and the establishment of the proposed peace would leave the Iroquois free to invade the Wyandot country, Adario resolved to prevent it; he succeeded effectually by waylaying and capturing the entire Iroquois embassy on its way to Montreal, with the forty young warriors who acted as a guard to the embassy, many of whom were killed. Among the captives was the head chief of the Onondagas, upon whom the wily Wyandot fully impressed the belief that this act was instigated by the French Governor. He then dismissed the captives, loaded with presents.

Fully believing in the base treachery of De Nonville and refusing to accept his assertions that he was not a party to the Wyandot chief's deed, the Iroquois were filled with rage and the most intense desire for revenge. Twelve hundred warriors, therefore, landed, on the 26th of July, 1688, on the Island of Montreal at its upper end, and before any opposition could be made, swept that portion of the island as with the besom of destruction; burning, pillaging, and slaughtering without mercy. In the following October this terrible work was repeated on the lower portion of the island. This was followed by the forced abandonment of the fort at Niagara and Fort Frontenac, and the power of the revengeful Iroquois seemed almost equal to the overthrow of the French dominion in Canada. Many of the Indian allies of the French left them and joined the English, enabling them to open a trade, and the French colony was left in a pitiable condition.

But this deplorable condition of affairs with the French was soon to meet with a favorable change, through the revolution in England which drove James II from the throne and opened a war with France. Count de Frontenac, whose former admin-

istration in the colony had given satisfaction, was again sent out as Governor of New France. He arrived October 2d, 1689, and immediately attempted peace negotiations with the Iroquois. This attempt failing, he planned and fitted out three expeditions in the winter of that year, one against New York, one against Connecticut and a third against New England. The first attack by number one of these expeditions was upon the village of Schenectady, on the night of February 9th, 1690, when the entire village, with the exception of two houses, was burned, the people slaughtered or taken prisoners and their property carried away. There were before the burning, "upwards of eighty well-built houses in the town." This disaster so discouraged the dwellers at Albany that they resolved to abandon their homes and remove to New York; they went so far as to pack many of their effects for removal, but were dissuaded from their purpose by the reproaches and encouragement offered by a party of the defeated Mohawks who had come to mourn with them over their losses. Great blame is attached to the English colonists for their want of energy and activity during this period, when compared with the vigilance and valor of the French under the admirable direction of Frontenac; but through it all the Iroquois, with rare heroism and loyalty, adhered to their allegiance with the English, who seemed more willing to sacrifice them than to serve their own cause.

In the summer of 1691 the New York and New England forces united in a combined attack upon the French by both land and water; the former, under command of Major Peter Schuyler, was directed against Montreal, and the latter, comprising thirty sail, was commanded by Sir William Phips, and made Quebec its object of attack. Although Schuyler inflicted quite a heavy loss upon the enemy, both the expeditions failed of their expected success. But the Iroquois gave the French colony no peace; they forced a cessation of the fur trade, prevented the tillage of their lands, causing a famine, and drove the old French Governor to desperation over his inability to prevent the continued incursions and assaults of the Indians; to revenge them he finally burned two Iroquois prisoners at the stake.

On the 6th of June, 1692, the Iroquois formed a treaty of alliance and friendship with Major Richard Ingoldesby, then Governor of New York; and on the 15th of January, 1693, Count de Frontenac, impelled by the dissatisfaction and despondence of the French colonists at having so long been held upon the defensive, organized an expedition into the Mohawk country, in which six hundred French and Indians participated. Three of the Mohawk castles were captured and three hundred prisoners taken. The remainder of that year and the year 1694 were spent in attempts to negotiate a peace between the Iroquois, who were again disheartened by the French and the raid into the Mohawk country, but without avail. Seeing no immediate prospects of peace, Count de Frontenac determined upon striking a final and effective blow at the Iroquois. He accordingly gathered all the French militia, and their Indian allies, with all of the western Indians he could control, and embarked from the southern end of the Island of Montreal on the 4th of July, 1696. The expedition was designed to strike a terrible blow at the center of the Five Nations — the Onondagas; but its effect was lost in a great measure through information carried to them by an escaped Seneca. The Onondagas fled from their village, with the exception of one old chief, said to have been a centenarian, who remained in his cabin, as a heroic method of ending his days; he was tortured to death, enduring the ordeal with characteristic fortitude.

This incursion by the French, while it cost the Onondagas only the loss of one old man and the destruction of their corn, left the French in a worse condition than before; the absence of the agricultural portion of the colonists left their crops to ruin and a famine ensued, which was rendered more unendurable through frequent raids by the restless Iroquois. Affairs mended only with the treaty of Ryswick, concluded September 12th, 1697. This treaty left unsettled some points relative to the exclusion of the Iroquois from its provisions, leaving them open to attack by the French, and to the exchange of prisoners. But the English firmly maintained their ground on both, and the French were obliged to yield. French and English rivalry continued, however, and was greatly augmented by the influence of the Jesuits among the Iroquois, large numbers of whom were induced to go to Canada to live, where they were taught by the missionaries and fed and clothed by the colony. This alienation caused the English to hold repeated councils with the Iroquois for the purpose of regaining whatever of their former influence that had been lost. The English made the most liberal promises of protection through the erection of forts and supplies of arms and ammunition. At one of these councils held August 11th, 1701, representatives of each of the Five Nations promised that "they would discredit the idle tales of the French, continue firm to the Crown of England, if it will protect them from its enemies, and were thankful for the promise of Protestant ministers." At a succeeding conference they were advised by the English to seize all Jesuits and send them to Albany, where they would receive one hundred pieces of silver, eight for each captive. To this the Indians agreed. To continue the peaceful relations thus brought about, the Colonial Assembly of New York enacted a stringent law in 1700, imposing the penalty of death by hanging upon every Jesuit who voluntarily came into the province. Liberal presents were made to the Iroquois chiefs, and five of their number were taken to England to hold up before their uncivilized gaze the magnificence of the great government that was offering them protection. But all of these efforts on the part of the English were not sufficient to prevent the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Iroquois and the French in August, 1701, in which negotiations they are believed to have been largely influenced by the great losses they had continually sustained.

Although the eighteenth century opened upon a scene of peace in the New World, it was not of long duration. Queen Anne succeeded to the English throne in 1702, and then followed what is known as "Queen Anne's War," between the rival nations, which was not concluded until the treaty of Utrecht, April 11th, 1713. New England was ravaged during this struggle; but New York was almost exempted from its touch, while the Five Nations maintained their neutrality with commendable success. By the treaty of Utrecht the French were enjoined from attacking the Five Nations, who were acknowledged as subjects of Great Britain, while free trade with them was guaranteed to both France and England.

In 1713 the Iroquois, with no fighting on their hands at the north, took a hand in a contest that was going on in Carolina between the whites of that territory and the Tuscaroras, a powerful nation of North Carolina. The latter were defeated, many were killed and many captives were sold as slaves to the allies of the English. The remainder were adopted by the Five Nations, were assigned territory just west of the Oneidas, and became known as the Sixth Nation.

The period from 1744 to 1748 witnessed another war between France and England,

which was concluded by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, made April 30th, 1748. This struggle was chiefly for the possession of the Mississippi valley, but it also opened the old question of Iroquois supremacy. The treaty which caused a cessation of hostilities was imperfect and left unsettled so many important questions that the contest was again begun in 1755. The early French successes which followed caused the Iroquois, now about equally divided between Canada and New York, to weaken in their alliance to the English, and the divisions among them increased as the war progressed. In April, 1757, the Senecas, Onondagas and Cayugas made open peace with Canada; but they were, chiefly through the influence of Sir William Johnson,[1] made to observe a fair degree of neutrality. This war was for the most part a bloody contest with the savage allies of the French, producing desolation and devastation on the colonial borders, especially in Pennsylvania. In 1756 forts were built at Oneida Castle and Onondaga, and a block house at Canaseraga, and at a council held at Onondaga June 19th, 1756, permission was given Colonel Johnson to erect a fort or magazine at Oswego Falls.

The war, at first a succession of French victories, was finally turned in favor of the English, and was concluded by the treaty of Paris in 1763, leaving England in possession of Canada and the country west of the Mississippi. Territorial disputes followed, however, between the Indians and the colonists, which finally led to the making of a treaty, ratified by Sir William Johnson in July, 1770, establishing what was called the "Property Line." This treaty recognized as Indian lands all the territory lying north and west of the Ohio and Alleghany rivers to Kittaning; thence in a direct line to the nearest fork of the west branch of the Susquehanna river; thence following that stream through the Alleghanies, by the way of Burnett's Hills and the eastern branch of the Susquehanna and the Delaware into New York, to a line parallel with the Unadilla, and thence north to Wood Creek east of Oneida lake. But this policy was not potent to appease the complaints of the Indians at the encroachments of the settlers, which paved the way for the hostilities of the Iroquois and the western Indians against the colonists during the war of the Revolution, then near at hand.

In 1775 the great struggle for American independence began. Sir William Johnson had died suddenly in the previous year, and his office of superintendent of Indian affairs devolved upon his nephew, Guy Johnson, who retained much of the influence over the Indians enjoyed by his uncle. The Six Nations were at first disposed towards neutrality, but the efforts of the English, chiefly through Johnson, Brant (Thayendanegea) and John Butler, soon overcame such disposition. Brant was sent to England, where he was honored and feasted; returning in the winter of 1776, he at once began the work of organizing a force of Iroquois warriors. In the spring of 1777 he appeared at Oquaga (now Windsor, Broome county) with a force of Indians and tories; in June he ascended the Susquehanna to Unadilla, whence he drove off cattle and sheep, and frightened the inhabitants of that section so that they retired to Cherry Valley and other less exposed places. Soon afterward Brant withdrew his forces from the Susquehanna and joined Sir John Johnson and John Butler at Oswego, where preparations were made for a descent upon the Mohawk settlements. In August, 1777, Fort Schuyler

[1] Sir William Johnson was sent to America in 1734 as the agent of his uncle, a great landholder in the Mohawk valley. He gained an almost unbounded influence over the Mohawk nation, chiefly by his ready affiliation with them and his integrity in dealing. He subsequently made his power conspicuous throughout the Six Nations and was entrusted by the British government with the management of its affairs in that connection.

was attacked and the bloody battle of Oriskany was fought. The Oneidas remained neutral during these events, for which course their crops, castles and wigwams were afterwards destroyed by Brant.

Following these events was perpetrated a long list of Indian and Tory atrocities upon the unprotected frontier settlements in New York and Pennsylvania, among which were the massacres of Wyoming and Cherry Valley in 1778, with many others, at later dates, the record of which is filled with deeds of bloodshed, vindictive torture, heroic defense and marvelous fortitude, and is printed upon thousands of historic pages. Into the details of these events it is not the province of this work to enter; it was their perpetration, however, that led Congress and General Washington to inaugurate an expedition in the spring of 1779 which exerted a powerful influence upon the closing scenes of the drama in which the Iroquois had played so conspicuous a part. General Sullivan was given command of this expedition and his force comprised three divisions: one from New Jersey, under General Maxwell; one from New England, under General Hand, and a third from New York, under General James Clinton (father of Gov. De Witt Clinton). The first two divisions mentioned, numbering thirty-five hundred men, under command of General Sullivan, left Wyoming, July 31st, 1779, and moved up the east side of the river. They were joined at Tioga Point by Clinton's force, which swelled the command to more than four thousand. Near the site of Elmira they encountered Butler with a small force of Indians and tories; a battle was fought, Butler was defeated and the expedition met with little subsequent opposition, marching into the Genesee country destroying the Seneca villages, burning dwellings, felling orchards, cutting and burning corn and other corps, and leaving a track of utter desolation. "The Indians shall see," said the commander of the expedition, "that we have malice enough in our hearts to destroy everything that contributes to their support," and this expressed intent governed the actions of the expedition. Forty Indian towns were burned, among them Genesee Castle, the capital of the Onondagas, with its "one hundred and twenty-eight houses, mostly large and elegant," while Kanadaseagea, the capital of the Senecas, and Kanandaigua shared the same fate. The terror-stricken Iroquois fled to Niagara, where many perished during the ensuing hard winter from lack of habitual food and diseases engendered thereby — a state of affairs for which the British were largely responsible, as the Indians looked to them for the means of subsistence in their emergency.

In partial conjunction with the Sullivan campaign, though it occurred a little earlier, was the expedition into the Onondaga country by Col. Van Schaick, assisted by Lieutenant Willet and Major Cochran, of the garrison at Fort Schuyler. A plan for this movement having been formed by General Schuyler and approved by the commander-in-chief, the three officers named started from Fort Schuyler at the head of between five and six hundred men, on the 19th of April, 1779. Great secrecy was maintained even as to the destination of the expedition, and all Indians were detained at the fort. On the third day of his march Col. Van Schaick reached his destination. The place where they first reached Onondaga lake was at Green Point, whence they proceeded to the mouth of Onondaga creek, and passed across it on a large sycamore log. Here Capt. Graham captured an Onondaga warrior, the first that had been seen; scouts also came upon the expedition at this point and the alarm was quickly spread among the nation, resulting in the

immediate retreat of the Indians. A skirmish was fought, but resulted in only a trifling loss to the Indians. Their villages and property were completely destroyed by burning. Twelve Indians were killed and thirty-four made prisoners. After the destruction of the villages, the expedition returned, reaching Fort Schuyler on the 24th, after an absence of five and a half days.

The expedition of Sullivan substantially destroyed the Iroquois League. While its form remained to a certain extent, the forces that bound it together were rendered practically powerless; but they were not yet conquered as far as predatory warfare was concerned. A reorganization was effected in the winter and, under the leadership of Corn-Planter, fell upon the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, burned their castle, church and village and sent them defeated to the white settlements near Schenectady; there they remained, devoted to the cause of the colonists, until the close of the war. In the mean time Sir John Johnson collected five hundred Indians and refugees, and passed through the woods from Crown Point to Johnson Hall, for the double purpose of securing some buried treasure left by him, and to punish his old neighbors. Both objects were accomplished; the village which then occupied the site of Fonda was burned, and many isolated dwellings for several miles along the Mohawk, always excepting those of Tories, were also laid in ashes. In the succeeding autumn Johnson, with a larger force and accompanied by Brant and Corn-Planter with five hundred warriors, entered the Schoharie valley, leaving devastation in their track; they also paid another visit of destruction upon the Mohawk valley, destroying dwellings as far up as Fort Plain. There they were met by Gov. George Clinton at the head of a force of militia, which was joined on the way by a strong party of Oneidas, led by their chief, "Atyatarongh-ta." The forces of Brant and Johnson were defeated and fled, the latter retreating to his boats on Onondaga lake and escaping to Canada by way of Oswego. Other similar incursions were made in the lower counties of the Hudson and in the Mohawk valley in 1781, in one of which the notorious Butler was killed by an Oneida Indian. Thus ended the border incursions in New York.

In retaliation for the bloodshed and devastation by the Iroquois throughout her borders the New York Legislature was inclined to drive them all from her limits; but, chiefly through the influence of Washington and Schuyler, more humane counsels prevailed. At the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee were appointed by the Federal government as commissioners to adjust the claims of the Six Nations. A council for the purpose was held at Fort Stanwix in 1784, where reservations were assigned to each of the Six Nations, except the Mohawks. The Oneidas and Tuscaroras had already been provided for through special legislation. In 1788 the Indian title to the lands embraced in the Military Tract was extinguished.

We will close this chapter with a brief reference to the work of the missionaries among the Onondagas, which has already been mentioned. Taking advantage of the temporary peace between the Iroquois and the French in 1654, Father Simon Le Moyne appeared among the Onondagas as a missionary. He left Montreal on the 17th of July, "accompanied by a young man of piety and fortitude who had long been a resident of that country." On the 5th of August he had nearly reached the end of his journey and wrote in his *Relation:* "We traveled four leagues before reaching the principal Onondaga village. I passed many persons on the way, who kindly saluted me, one calling me brother, another uncle, and another cousin. I never had so many relations. At a quarter of a league

from the village I began a harangue in a solemn and commanding tone, which gained me great credit. I named all their chiefs, families and distinguished persons. I told them that peace and joy were my companions and that I shattered war among the distant nations. Two chiefs addressed me as I entered the village with a welcome, the like of which I had never before experienced among savages."

It was on the 16th of August that Father Le Moyne discovered the salt springs and made the first salt ever produced there by a European, "as natural," he wrote, "as from the sea." He made the first baptism of a young captive of the Neuter nation, who had been instructed in the faith by a Huron convert. Father Le Moyne's visit to the Onondagas was made at the special request of Ondessonk, the then great chief of the nation, who asked him to select "on the banks of our great lake a convenient place for a French habitation." In the following year (1655) he was followed by Fathers Joseph Chaumonot and Claude Dablon, who "were received with the strongest proofs of friendship." They founded the mission of St. John the Baptist, which is supposed by the best authorities to have been located on "Indian Hill," two miles south of the village of Manlius. The first sacrament of holy mass was celebrated by these Fathers in the in the cabin of "Teotonharason," one of the women who came from Quebec with the missionaries, on Sunday, November 14th, 1655. She became a woman of wealth and high character and made a public profession of religion, teaching the faith among the people. The location of St. Mary's of Ganentaha was also fixed in that year by Fathers Chaumonot and Dablon. The *Relation* says of it: "This day for the first time we visited the salt spring, which is only two leagues from here, near the lake Ganentaha, and the place chosen for the French settlement, because it is in the center of the Iroquois nation, and because we can from thence visit in canoes various localities upon the rivers and lakes."

Early in the spring of 1656 Father Dablon returned to Quebec for reinforcements to strengthen the hearts of the missionaries. He, with his guides, crossed Oneida lake on the ice and proceeded by the usual northern trail to the mouth of the Salmon river, reaching Montreal on the 30th of March. Father Chaumonot remained at Onondaga, and the following summer was joined by Fathers Dablon, Le Mercier, René Mesnard, Jacques Frémin, and Brothers Ambrose Broar and Bourgier, to found the mission of St. Mary's of Ganentaha. They arrived on the shore of Onondaga lake at 3 o'clock of the 11th of July, where many of the old men and chiefs of the Onondagas awaited them. On the 17th they began the erection of their dwellings and a fort on the east shore of the lake, in the town of Salina, where the outlines of the fort were found by early settlers.

This mission was for a time quite prosperous, but was finally broken up through the rivalries engendered by the European governments. In 1665 a number of French families returned, under the guidance of missionaries, and settled near the Indian fort and village located in the vicinity of the present village of Jamesville. Here was established the mission of St. Jean Baptiste, and in the following year a chapel was built. Three years later (1669) the French were again at war with the Iroquois; but Father Le Moyne, full of religious zeal, again appeared among the Onondagas, having been driven from among the Mohawks, and was received with affection. The missionaries would, undoubtedly, at all times have been safe among the Indians, even if their efforts were not the most successful, had it not been for the constant warring of the whites. About the year 1700 the Jesuit missions began to decline,

partly owing to the efforts of the English to plant the Protestant faith among the Indians. The Earl of Belmont, then Governor of New York, proposed to erect a fort and a chapel at Onondaga, and King William sent over a set of communion plate and furniture for the chapel. These plans were interrupted in 1702 by the king's death; but they were renewed by Queen Anne, who became a zealous patron of the missions among the Five Nations.

Missions were established by the Moravians among the Onondagas in 1750, when Bishop Cammerhoff and Brother David Zeisberger, journeyed to Onondaga from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. They were kindly received by the Indians and given permission to remain with them one or two years to learn their language. This mission was continued at intervals for several years; but it was never very influential.

The Rev. Samuel Kirkland began his work among the Oneidas in August, 1766, remaining among the Indians for over forty years, and gaining a wide-spread influence through the entire Iroquois Confederacy. His counsel to the Oneidas was potent to secure their neutrality and often their friendship to the colonists during the war of the Revolution. He was in all respects one of the most useful and successful of the devoted men who sought to plant good seed in the benighted minds of the Iroquois. He died in 1808. Since that time numerous and persistent efforts have been made by representatives of the different Protestant churches to convert and christianize the Onondagas and their brethren. Prominent among them were Eleazer Williams, who visited the Onondagas in 1816; afterward he was joined by Revs. Wm. A. Clark and Ezekiel G. Gear. It was at the suggestion of the latter that a school was opened at Onondaga by one of their own people — Mary Doxtater, who had been educated by the Philadelphia Quakers and had taught among the Oneidas; the school was begun in 1820, but she died a few years later. Rev. Rosman Ingals began religious work among the Onondagas in 1841, after the Methodist faith, and after August 1st, 1842, preaching was kept up every third Sunday. In that year a building was procured and fitted up for a church; it was used until 1846, when a new school-house was built and used for a church. Here Rev. Daniel Fancher preached with considerable success. In 1848 a new and commodious church was erected, and religious work among the Onondagas has been unwearyingly continued since.

CHAPTER V.

PREVIOUS TO COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

An Indian "Summer Resort" — Early Records and State Divisions — Genealogy of Cortland County — The Military Tract — Its Origin and History — Land Bounties to Soldiers — Proportions of Bounties — Action of Congress in Relation Thereto — The Tract Ordered Surveyed, Mapped and Divided — Conditions Imposed upon Grantees — The "State's Hundreds" — School and Gospel Lots — Division into Townships — Fraudulent Land Titles — Vexatious Litigation — Formation of the Present Towns of the County.

IN the foregoing chapters it has been our purpose to give a record of the conspicuous events in the history of the nation of Indians who were most nearly identified with the territory now embraced in Cortland county, and their relations with their confederates in the mightiest savage organization ever known, and with the whites

after their advent. While it is true that few of these events occurred in what is now this county, yet every person now dwelling here must feel an interest in the people who roamed through our productive valleys before the sound of the white man's axe echoed in the unbroken forest, and who, after early civilized settlement had begun, frequently visited their old camping grounds in this vicinity, planted the little clearings, and mingled freely with the pioneers and their families, as will be noted farther on in this work. Such is the reason (if any is needed) for devoting the opening chapters of the history of the county to the predecessors of civilization around and within its borders.

Cortland county, as defined since the year 1808, was, perhaps, more fortunate than any other in the Empire State in escaping the terrors of border wars and devastating incursions by Indians and Tories. While it was somewhat central in the broad domain of the Six Nations, it seems to have been surrounded by the thrilling scenes and deeds of early times, while they penetrated very little within its borders. The Iroquois and their enemies fought all around the county, if we may use the expression, but left it comparatively unscathed. As far as the Indians were concerned, we must believe that the territory of Cortland county was a peaceful Arcadia where the red brother of the Onondagas and, perhaps, some of his brethren of other nations, came to enjoy the chase, to till their little openings, and to roam through the valleys or drift down the winding Tioughnioga; but not to fight. It was to him a sort of summer resort.

Before referring directly to the formation and subsequent history of Cortland county, we may profitably note briefly some of the interesting early records and events of this locality. At the close of the Revolution Central New York was still a wilderness; but the march of armies and the incursions of small parties had made known to many its desirable characteristics for permanent civilized settlement. After the Duke of York had superseded the Dutch, in 1683, the province of New York was divided into twelve counties, viz.: Albany, Duchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster, Westchester, Dukes and Cornwall. In 1693 the latter two were surrendered to Massachusetts. In 1768 Cumberland county was added, and Gloucester in 1770; these were subsequently yielded to New Hampshire and afterward became a part of Vermont. In 1772 the county of Tryon was formed from Albany, and its name changed in 1784 to Montgomery. In 1789 Ontario county was formed of all that part of Montgomery county lying west of a north and south line across the State through Seneca lake, two miles east of Geneva. Herkimer county was taken from Montgomery and organized in 1791, embracing all the territory west of Montgomery, north of Otsego and Tioga counties, and east of Ontario county. In 1794 Onondaga county was erected from the western part of Herkimer, and included all of the "Military Tract," which embraced the present counties of Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga and Cortland, with that part of Tompkins lying north of a line drawn east from the head of Seneca lake to the southwest corner of Cortland county, and all that part of Oswego county lying west of the Oswego river. Hence the territory of Cortland county was, from 1772 to 1794, included in Montgomery and Herkimer counties. In 1788 all that part of the State of New York lying west of a north and south line across the State, crossing the Mohawk river at "Old Fort Schuyler" (Utica), was erected into a town called Whitestown, in honor of Judge White, who had settled at what is

now Whitesboro, in 1784. In 1786 settlement had only so far progressed that Montgomery county contained a population of 15,057, and the great town of Whitestown contained only about two hundred; that was less than a century ago, and the same territory now contains several millions. It does not require a graphic pen to cause one to marvel at the transformation which has fallen upon the then wilderness of Central New York, changing it to a fruitful, blossoming garden, spread with thickly populated cities and villages and laced with innumerable railroads. It is an exhibition of growth never equaled in any other country.

Whitestown was afterwards divided into three towns, the original town extending from its former eastern limits to the present western line of Madison county. The town of Mexico included the eastern half of the "Military Tract," and the town of Peru the western half.

The genealogy of Cortland county may, therefore, be traced as follows: —

Albany county formed	1683
Tryon county formed	1772
Changed to Montgomery	1784
Herkimer county formed	1791
Onondaga county formed	1794
Cortland county formed from Onondaga	1808

The boundaries of the new county were as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner of the township of Cincinnatus (one of the townships in the tract commonly known as the "Military Tract"), and running thence north along the east bounds thereof and of the townships of Solon and Fabius; thence westerly to the northwest corner of lot No. 51 in the township of Tully; thence south along the east bounds of the townships of Sempronius, Locke and Dryden, to the southwest corner of the township of Virgil; thence easterly along the south bounds of the townships of Virgil and Cincinnatus to the place of beginning.

THE MILITARY TRACT.

It has already been stated herein that the territory now embraced within the boundaries of Cortland county formerly comprised four whole and two half townships in the southeastern corner of what was known as the "Military Tract." This famous tract had its origin in congressional and legislative action whereby land bounties were offered to soldiers. On the 16th of September, 1776, Congress "resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the report of the Board of War, and after some time the President resumed the Chair and Mr. Nelson reported that the Committee have had under consideration the report from the Board of War, and have made sundry amendments, which they ordered him to lay before Congress. Congress then took into consideration the report of the Board of War and the amendments offered by the Committee of the Whole, and thereupon came to the following resolutions: —

"That eighty-eight battalions be enlisted as soon as possible, to serve during the present war; and that each State furnish their respective quotas in the following proportions: —

New Hampshire	3	battalions.
Massachusetts Bay	15	"
Rhode Island	2	"
Connecticut	8	"
New York	4	"
Pennsylvania	12	"
Delaware	1	"
Maryland	8	"
Virginia	15	"
North Carolina	9	"
South Carolina	6	"
Georgia	1	"

That twenty dollars be given as a bounty to each non-commissioned officer and private soldier who shall enlist to serve during the present war, unless sooner discharged by Congress.

"That Congress make provision for granting lands in the following proportions to the officers and soldiers who shall so engage in the service



and continue therein till the close of the war, or until discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such officers and soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy.

"Such lands to be provided by the United States; and whatever expenses shall be necessary to procure such lands, the said expenses shall be paid and borne by the States, in the same proportion as the other expenses of the war, viz.:—

To a Colonel	500	acres.
" Lieutenant-Colonel	450	"
" Major	400	"
" Captain	300	"
" Lieutenant	300	"
" Ensign	150	"
" each non-commissioned officer and soldier	100	" "[1]

In addition to the above, Congress passed an act on the 12th of August, 1780, providing for land bounties as follows:—

To a Major-General	1,100	acres.
" Brigadier-General	850	"

The bloody depredations by the Indians and Tories on the frontier during the revolutionary period, and especially during the years 1779 and 1780, and the neglect of several States other than New York to furnish their proper quota of troops for the protection of the lives and property of settlers, caused the Legislature of New York to enact a law in 1781, requiring the enlistment of "two regiments for the defense of the frontier of New York." The term of service was to be three years, unless sooner discharged, and the good faith of the State was pledged to the fulfillment of promises and payment of such services. "The Council of Appointment of the State of New York was empowered to commission the field officers, and the Governor of the State, the captains and subalterns."

At the close of the war, in 1783, the Legislature of New York State took action upon the bounties promised by the United States Congress for military service, and relative to the granting of land gratuities by the State, through a resolution dated March 27th, 1783, and introduced by Mr. Duane, which read as follows:—

"*Resolved*, therefore (if the honorable, the House of Assembly concur herein), That, besides the bounty of land so promised as aforesaid, the Legislature will by law provide that the Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals now serving in the line of the army of the United States, and being citizens of this State, and the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the two regiments commanded by Colonels Van Schaick and Van Cortlandt; such officers of the regiment of artillery commanded by Colonel Lamb and of the corps of sappers and miners as were, when they entered the service, inhabitants of this State; such of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the said last-mentioned two corps as are credited to this State as part of the troops thereof; all officers designated by any act of Congress subsequent to the 16th of September, 1776; all officers recommended by Congress as persons whose depreciation on pay ought to be made good by this State and who may hold military commissions in the line of the army at the close of the war; and the Rev. John Gano and Rev. John Mason shall severally have granted to them the following quantities of land, to-wit:—

Non-commissioned officers and privates, each	500	acres.
Major-General	5,500	"
Brigadier-General	4,500	"
Colonel	2,500	"
Lieutenant-Colonel	2,000	"
Major	2,000	"
Captain	1,500	"
Regimental Surgeon	1,500	"
Chaplain	2,000	"
Subaltern	1,000	"
Surgeon's Mate	1,000	"

"That the lands so to be granted as bounty from the United States, and as gratuity from the State, shall be laid out in townships of six miles square; that each township shall be divided into 156 lots of 150 acres each, two lots whereof shall be reserved for the use of a minister or ministers of the Gospel, and two lots for the use of a school or schools; that each person above described

[1] Extract from proceedings of Congress.

shall be entitled to as many such lots as his bounty and gratuity land as aforesaid will admit of; that one-half the lots each person shall be entitled to shall be improved at the rate of five acres for each hundred acres, within five years after the grant, if the grantee shall retain possession of such lots; and that the said bounty and gratuity lands be located in the district of this State reserved for the use of the troops by an act entitled, 'An Act to prevent grants or locations of the lands therein mentioned, passed the 25th day of July, 1772.'

"*Resolved*, That His Excellency, the Governor, be requested to communicate these resolutions in such manner as he shall conceive most proper.

"*Resolved*, That this House do concur with the Honorable, the Senate, in the last preceding resolutions.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. John Lawrence and Mr. Humphrey carry a copy of the preceding resolution of concurrence to the Honorable, the Senate."

After several amendments and minor modifications of this legislative action an act was passed on the 28th day of February, 1789, in which it was provided, "That the Commissioners of the Land Office shall, and they are hereby authorized to, direct the Surveyor-General to lay out as many townships in tracts of land set apart for such purposes as will contain land sufficient to satisfy the claims of all such persons who are, or shall be entitled to grants of land by certain concurrent resolutions and by the eleventh clause of the Act entitled 'An act for granting certain lands promised to be given as bounty lands by the laws of the State,' and for other purposes therein mentioned, passed the 11th day of May, 1784; which townships shall respectively contain 60,000 acres of land and be laid out as nearly in squares as local circumstances will permit, and be numbered from one progressively to the last, inclusive; and the Commissioners of the Land Office shall likewise designate every township by such name as they shall deem proper."

The same act also provided, "that the Surveyor-General, as soon as may be, shall make a map of each of said townships, and each township shall be subdivided on such map into one hundred lots, as nearly square as may be, each lot to contain six hundred acres, or as near that quantity as may be; and the lots in every township shall be numbered from one to the last, inclusive, in numerical order." Under this law General Simeon Dewitt, assisted by Moses Dewitt and Abram Hardenburgh, laid out the entire tract, the former "plotting and mapping the boundaries, and calculating its area."

After the survey, the making of the maps and their deposit in the offices of the Surveyor-General and the Secretary of State, the Land Commissioners were directed to "advertise for six successive weeks in one or more newspapers printed in each of the cities of New York and Albany (whereof the newspaper published by the printer to this State, if any such there be, shall be one), requiring all persons entitled to grants of bounty or gratuity lands, who had not already exhibited their claims, to exhibit the same to the Commissioners on or before the first day of January, 1791."

The same act ordered that "All persons to whom land shall be granted by virtue of this act, and who are entitled thereto by any *act or resolution of Congress*, shall make an assignment of his or her proportion and claim of bounty or gratuity lands under any act or acts of Congress, to the Surveyor-General, for the use of the people of this State."

Following this action on the part of the grantees referred to in the last paragraph, it was provided that for all lands thus assigned to the State, an equal number of acres should be given them by the State, and so far as possible in one tract and under one patent, "provided the same does not exceed one-fourth of the quantity of a town-

ship." This arrangement was made for the benefit of those holding claims to land in the State of Ohio, in a tract set apart by Congress for the satisfying of claims by persons who had served in the Revolutionary War, entitling them to one hundred acres each. They were thus enabled to secure their entire claim of six hundred acres in one tract. But if a person neglected to relinquish his claim to the one hundred acres in Ohio, the sixth part of what his patent called for reverted to the State, giving rise to the term, "State's Hundred." Eight dollars (48 shillings) were taxed each patentee as a survey fee, in case of the nonpayment of which fifty acres of his land reverted to the State; hence arose the term "Survey Fifty."

A further provision obligated the grantees of such lands to make actual settlement upon each six hundred acres "that may be granted to any person or persons, within seven years from the first of January next after the date of the patent by which such lands shall be granted; and on failure of such settlement, the unsettled lands shall revert to the people of the State."

An exception and reservation was made to the people of the State of all the "gold and silver mines" in the lands granted.

The Indian title to the lands embraced in the Military Tract was extinguished at the treaty of Fort Stanwix, on the 12th of September, 1788.

The act of February, 1789, provided that six lots in each township should be reserved and assigned, one for promoting the spirit of the Gospel and for public schools; one for promoting the spread of literature in the State, and the other four to satisfy the surplus share of commissioned officers not corresponding with the divisions of six hundred acres and to compensate such persons as might draw any lot or lots parts of which were under water.

At the time under consideration the Land Commissioners consisted of the Governor (or the person administering the State government for the time being), the Lieutenant-Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, Secretary of State, Attorney General, the Treasurer and Auditor, the presence of three being necessary for the transaction of business. These Commissioners held a meeting in the office of the Secretary of State on the 3d of July, 1790; there were present His Excellency George Clinton, Governor; Lewis A. Scott, Secretary; Gerard Banker, Treasurer; Peter T. Curtenius, Auditor. Maps of the surveys of twenty-six townships, as made by the Surveyor-General, were laid before the Commissioners. The townships were respectively subdivided into one hundred lots as nearly square as possible, each lot containing six hundred acres. The Commissioners then caused the townships and the lots to be numbered according to law, as we have indicated it, and designated them by the names of famous men as follows:—

1. Lysander.	14. Tully.
2. Hannibal.	15. Fabius.
3. Cato.	16. Ovid.
4. Brutus.	17. Milton.
5. Camillus.	18. Locke.
6. Cicero.	19. Homer.
7. Manlius.	20. Solon.
8. Aurelius.	21. Hector.
9. Marcellus.	22. Ulysses.
10. Pompey.	23. Dryden.
11. Romulus.	24. Virgil.
12. Scipio.	25. Cincinnatus.
13. Sempronius.	26. Junius.

This tract contained 600,000 acres and embraced within its limits the present counties of Onondaga, Cortland, Cayuga, Tompkins and Seneca, with portions of Oswego and Wayne. Cortland, as at present bounded, was situated in the southeastern corner of the tract. The townships, as surveyed, should not be confounded with

what is now known as a town. In early years a township often embraced several towns. Homer township included the present towns of Homer and Cortland; Virgil embraced the towns of Virgil, Harford and Lapeer; Cincinnatus included the present towns of Cincinnatus, Marathon, Freetown and Willet; Solon included the present towns of Solon and Taylor; and Preble contained the towns of Preble and Scott. As settlement advanced the extensive towns of pioneer times were divided and subdivided, for the more convenient transaction of the increasing public business.

On the first of January, 1791, the commissioners met and proceeded under the laws to determine by ballot who were entitled to claim the lands. Ninety-four persons drew lots in each township, and lots were also drawn for the Gospel, for literature, etc., as before indicated.

In August, 1792, the Commissioners, acting under a provision for grants of lands to the hospital department and others, caused the survey and numbering of township 27, which was given the name of Galen.

In January, 1795, there being several unsatisfied claims for military bounty or gratuity lands, and the twenty-seven townships being disposed of, the Commissioners resolved that the Surveyor-General should lay out still another township, as number 28. This was afterwards named Sterling, and sufficed to satisfy all remaining claims.

Many frauds were perpetrated in connection with the titles to these military claims, to prevent which an act was passed in January, 1794, requiring all deeds and conveyances made and executed prior to that time to be deposited with the Clerk of Albany county for examination, and all such as were not so deposited should be considered as fraudulent. Claimants' names were posted in alphabetical order in the clerks' offices at Albany and Herkimer, for the full inspection of all who were interested.

The numerous contested claims filled the courts with vexatious litigation, almost every lot causing trouble of this nature. Squatters settled on the soldiers' honest claims and it was found difficult and expensive to eject them by process of law. Land sharks possessed themselves of conveyances bearing anterior dates to those held by honest purchasers, who were subjected to threats of violence or long persecution in the courts, if they did not abandon their justly acquired property. Not seldom these land pirates were successful in their schemes; but on some occasions they encountered old soldiers who showed a disposition to take the law into their own hands for the protection of their rights; men who had faced the foe on many a bloody field, and were not to be easily driven from the lands they had thus earned. Goodwin, the author of the *Pioneer History of Cortland County*, is authority for the statement that in the eastern part of Cortland dwelt one of these veterans whose occupancy of a bounty claim did not accord with the notions of justice entertained by a land pirate. The old soldier "was an associate with the chivalrous sons who marched to Quebec when winter's awful tempest opposed their progress, and who crossed the ice-choked Delaware, regardless of chilling winds and angry waves; again defying the rage of battle beneath the burning sun at Monmouth — kindred spirits to those who fought at Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill. . . . . After locating on his lot, and at a time when hope painted to his eager vision long years of future happiness, he was called upon by one of these gentlemen Shylocks, who informed him that he held a conveyance of his lot, and that he was the only legal owner, and gave him a very po-

lite invitation to evacuate his possessions. But the stern old patriot — the hero of many battles, and who carried on his person the certificates of his valor — was not thus hastily to be ejected from his revolutionary inheritance. The fire that once glowed so brightly in the old man's eyes on the field of battle was rekindled, and he would sooner have fallen a martyr to justice and right, than have obsequiously acquiesced in the mandate of his ungallant oppressor. The conveyance was at length laid open and examined and found to bear a date prior to his own. In short, it was a forgery. When the defrauder found that the stern, heroic warrior would not yield to his demand, he threatened him with the terrors of law and the cost of an ejectment suit. This, however, only caused a smile to play over the face of the worthy pioneer of civilization. . . . . He knew that his possessions were legally bequeathed to him, as a comparatively small gift for the sacrifices he had made in the cause of human emancipation; and to be thus deprived of a home which he had purchased with sacrifices and blood, would not comport with the principle for which he had contended, and he spurned the intruder from his presence."

It is to be regretted that the historian did not give us the name of this successful veteran. The act of 1794, before alluded to, while undoubtedly checking the frauds and greatly facilitating the settlement of claims, did not entirely dispose of the litigated disputes and contentions. Finally, in the year 1797, the dwellers on the great Military Tract wearied of the continued struggle for their rights and unanimously united in petitioning the State Legislature to pass a law authorizing measures for the speedy and equitable adjustment of all disputes relating to their land titles. An act was accordingly passed, appointing Robert Yates, James Kent and Vincent Mathews a Board of Commissioners, with full powers "to hear, examine, award and determine all disputes respecting the titles to any and all the military bounty lands." The Governor was authorized to fill all vacancies in this Board.

The Commissioners vigorously began and prosecuted their task. Most of the awards of 1798–99 are signed by Vincent Mathews and James Emmott; later ones by Vincent Mathews and Robert Yates, and some in 1801–02 by Vincent Mathews, James Emmott and Sanders Livingston. After a long period of vexatious labor, all the disputed claims were passed upon and the inhabitants of the Military Tract have since rested in security and peace.

Following is a complete list of all the original townships of the Military Tract, the different present towns which have been formed from them and the counties in which they are situated: —

No.	Township.	Present Towns.	County.
1	Lysander	Lysander and part of Granby,	Onondaga Oswego
2	Hannibal	Town and west part of the city of Oswego, Hannibal, and north part of Granby,	Oswego
3.	Cato.	Victory and Ira, north part of Conquest and Cato,	Cayuga
4.	Brutus.	Mentz and Brutus, and parts of Conquest, Cato, Montezuma, Throop and Sennet,	Cayuga
5.	Camillus.	Van Buren and Elbridge, and part of Camillus,	Onondaga
6.	Cicero.	Clay and Cicero,	Onondaga
7	Manlius	De Witt and Manlius, and part of Salina,	Onondaga
8.	Aurelius.	Fleming, Auburn city and Owasco, most of Throop and Sennet, part of Aurelius, and one lot in Montezuma,	Cayuga
9.	Marcellus.	Skaneateles and Marcellus, parts of Spafford and Otisco,	Onondaga
10.	Pompey.	Pompey, most of Lafayette, three lots in Otisco,	Onondaga
11.	Romulus.	Romulus, west part of Fayette and Varick, and four lots in Seneca Falls,	Seneca
12.	Scipio.	Scipio and Venice, south part of Ledyard and two lots in Niles, to a small point of the northwest corner of Moravia,	Cayuga
13.	Sempronius.	Moravia, Sempronius and most of Niles, and part of Spafford,	Onondaga
14	Tully	Tully, south part of Spafford, and Otisco, Scott and Preble,	Cortland
15	Ludlow	North part of Preble and Cuyler,	Onondaga Cortland

No.	Township.	Present Towns.	County.
16.	Ovid.	Ovid, Lodi and Covert,	Seneca
17.	Milton.	Genoa, and Lansing,	Cayuga Tompkins
18.	Locke.	Locke and Summer Hill, and Groton	Cayuga Tompkins
19.	Homer.	Homer and most of Cortlandville,	Cortland
20.	Solon.	Solon, Fayetteville, south part of Truxton and Cuyler,	Cortland
21.	Hector.	Hector,	Schuyler
22.	Ulysses.	Ulysses, Enfield and Ithaca,	Tompkins
—	Dryden.	Nearly the whole of Dryden,	Tompkins

No.	Township.	Present Towns.	County.
24.	Virgil.	Virgil, most of Harford and Lapeer, and two and one quarter lots in Cortlandville, and one lot (20) in Freetown,	Cortland
—	Cincinnatus.	Freetown, Cincinnatus, and most of Marathon,	Cortland
—	Junius.	Junius, Tyre, Waterloo, and north part of Seneca Falls,	Seneca
27.	Galen.	Galen and Savannah,	Wayne
28.	Sterling.	Sterling, and east part of Wolcott and Butler,	Cayuga

CHAPTER VI.

FORMATION OF THE COUNTY.

A Division of Onondaga County Demanded — The Petition of Southern Residents for that Object — Important Provisions of the Law Organizing Cortland County — Origin of Name — Changes in the Townships — Organization of the Courts — First County Officers — Early Political Parties — Pioneers of the County — Delays in Early Settlement — Comparative Dates of Other Settlements — Routes of Incoming Pioneers — Privations of Early Settlers — Winter Travel in Olden Times — The First Settlers in Cortland County — Mrs. Beebe's Lonely Life in the Wilderness — Settlements in the Different Towns Previous to 1810 — Population at that Date — Opening of Early Roads — Turnpike Road Companies — Necessity for Grist-Mills — The First Churches — Early Schools.

AS might be apprehended, there were internal causes, originating in the necessities of the inhabitants, the growth of settlements, the convenient transaction of business of a public nature, etc., which led to the formation of Cortland county as a separate civil organization. Some of the principal of these causes were enumerated in the original petition to the Legislature for the division of Onondaga county, which read as follows: —

"To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of New York in Senate and Assembly convened: The Petition of the Subscribers, inhabitants of the towns of Fabius, Tully, Solon, Homer, Virgil, and Cincinnatus, humbly sheweth: —

"That the county of Onondaga is ninety-six miles in length, and at an average breadth of about twenty-five miles; that from the extreme of the southern boundary of the said county to the court house is sixty miles, — which operates greatly to the inconvenience of many of your petitioners in giving their attendance at court. That the population of said county is now very great,[1] and is daily increasing, which renders it impossible for our Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to transact with due expediency the legal business of said county; whereby the suitors of said courts experience great delay of justice, which, in the opinion of your petitioners, is equivalent to a denial of justice. That your petitioners humbly conceive that a division of the said county will be of signal advantage to the inhabitants of the said towns of Solon, Fabius, Tully, Homer, Virgil, and Cincinnatus, and also to the inhabitants of the northern part of said county.

"Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the before-mentioned towns be erected into a new county by the name of Courtlandt, and that there be three Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace held in the said county as follows, viz.: on the second Tuesday of April, and the first Tuesday of September and December, in every year, after the due organization of the said county.

"And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray."

This petition was signed by seven hundred and forty-seven of the prominent residents of the five towns desiring the separation. On the 4th day of February, 1808,

[1] The population of Onondaga county in 1810 was 25,087.

the petition was introduced in the Senate by the Hon. John Ballard, a resident of Homer and a member from the western district. It was referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Ballard, Buel and Yates. On the following day Mr. Ballard made a report in favor of the prayer of the petitioners, presenting at the same time a bill to that effect, which was thereupon read the first and second times and referred to the Committee of the Whole. In this Committee it was called up on the 8th, when it was ordered to be engrossed. On the 10th it was read for the third time and passed.

It was sent on the same day to the Assembly, read and referred to the Committee of the Whole. Here it met with considerable opposition, as important measures usually do. The northern towns of Onondaga county remonstrated against the proposed division of the county, and opposition was fostered among the people to such an extent that the Hon. Joshua Forman, the founder of Syracuse and then in the Assembly, made a characteristically eloquent and forcible speech against the measure. But it was all without avail; Cortland County was to *be*, and it *was* — and *is*. The bill became a law on the 8th day of April, 1808. Following are the more important sections of the law which gave this county a place among the civil organizations of the State :—

"An Act to Divide the County of Onondaga, passed April 8th, 1808.

"I. Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, that all that part of the county of Onondaga, to wit: Beginning at the south corner of the town of Cincinnatus, and thence running north along the east line of the towns of Cincinnatus, Solon and Fabius, to the northeast corner of lot number sixty, in said town of Fabius; thence running west along the north line of that tier of lots, through the towns of Fabius and Tully, to the northwest corner of lot number fifty-one, in said town of Tully; thence south along the east line of the county of Cayuga, to the southeast corner of the towns of Virgil and Cincinnatus, to the place of beginning, shall be one separate and distinct county, and shall be called and known by the name of Cortland.

"II. And be it further enacted, that the Courts in and for the said county shall be held at the school house on lot number forty-five in the town of Homer.

"III. And be it further enacted, that all that part of the town of Fabius situated in the county of Cortland shall be called Truxton; and all that part of the town of Tully in said county of Cortland shall be called Preble."

Other sections of the Act provided that Cortland county should have one Member of Assembly; that it should form a part of the Western Senatorial District and part of the Thirteenth Congressional District.

The passage of this Act, forming as it did the town of Preble from Tully, and Truxton from Fabius, gave the new county six townships — Virgil, formed from Homer in 1804; Cincinnatus, formed the same year from Solon; Homer, Solon, Preble and Truxton. No changes were made in the towns during the first decade of the century.

The Act of the Legislature erecting the county provided for the holding of three courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace; they were to be held on the second Tuesday of April, and the first Tuesdays of September and December, in every year after the due organization of the county. These courts were to have "the same jurisdiction, powers and authorities as the courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace in the other counties of the State have in their respective counties." Suits previously commenced, however, were not to be affected so as to work a wrong or prejudice to any of the parties; nor were any criminal or other proceedings on the part of the State to be in the least affected by the change; on the contrary, all such civil and criminal proceedings were to be prosecuted to trial, judgment and execu-

tion. It was also provided that the courts of the new county should "be held at the school-house on lot 45, in the town of Homer." John Keep was the first County Judge, receiving his appointment on the 3d day of April, 1810.

As before stated, Cortland county was made a part of the Western Senatorial District and of the Thirteenth Congressional District, and was entitled to one Member of Assembly; this latter fact continued until 1823, when two Members, Daniel Sherwood and John Gillett were elected. Ephraim Fish was the first Member, elected in 1810, taking his seat at the opening of the 33d session. Further first officers of the county were John Ballard, County Clerk, appointed April 8th, 1808; succeeded by Reuben Washburn, April 3d, 1810. Asahel Minor, Sheriff, April 8th, 1808; succeeded by Wm. Mallory June 9th, 1808, (by appointment), and Joshua Ballard April 3d, 1810. John McWhorter, Surrogate, appointed April 8th, 1808; succeeded by Mead Merrill, April 3d, 1810.[1]

The political parties of the country at the time under consideration were the Democratic and Federal; but the era was not yet inaugurated when the political field was annually filled with the hotly engaged contestants of later days, determined to show that the fate of the country depends upon the success of their respective parties.

In order to place clearly before the reader the events leading to the formation of the county, its boundaries, its condition at the time of its formation, etc., necessary to a proper understanding of its detailed history, we have anticipated by about seventeen years the first settlements within its borders. Let us now revert to the history of that period.

The pioneers of this county came, in the main, from New England — brave, hardy, energetic, persevering Yankees. While it was not for them to perform great and heroic deeds, in the common understanding of the term, they nevertheless participated in events about their own hearthstones and in the thick forests that surrounded their primitive dwellings, which should record their names on the imperishable rolls of honor beside those of men who have marshaled armies to drench with blood a hundred battle-fields. They were men who must have lived not so much for the enjoyment of living, as for the future good that might accrue from their earthly work. Many of them had taken active part in the stern events of the Revolution, while all had felt the inspiring influences born of the knowledge that henceforth they and their country would be free; and they came into the wilderness full of rugged enthusiasm and an unflinching determination to create peaceful and permanent homes for themselves and their posterity.

Settlement in Cortland county was delayed beyond that of most other sections of this State. The Indian title to the rich garden of the Genesee country was extinguished before the Military Tract was ceded to the State, and it lay on the great thoroughfare from the populated country farther east. The Phelps and Gorham purchase, through the energy of its owners and eastern agents, was rapidly settled at an early date, about fifty townships having been sold by the year 1790; while the central portions of the State, hilly and covered with a heavy growth of timber, was looked upon with little favor by prospective pioneers. Hence, it was not until the fall of 1791 that a permanent white settler began his home in this county, on the banks of the Tioughnioga river. At that date the valleys of the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers had been settled to some extent for more than five years. The site of Binghamton had been

[1] For county officials after 1810, see civil list in subsequent pages.

occupied two years. Onondaga valley had been settled about five years. Salt had been manufactured at Salina for three years. Norwich had been settled three years; Ithaca two years. Oxford, Chenango county, was settled in 1790, and mills had been erected at Rochester in 1788.

The pioneers of this county, or a large majority of them, came in either by way of the Susquehanna, the Chenango, and the Tioughnioga, from the south and east; or southward from Manlius through Truxton, and later from Onondaga Valley. The Indian trails were followed, where practicable, until State roads were opened, and many of the limited domestic outfits of the early settlers were brought up the Tioughnioga in canoes. Journeys of hundreds of miles, from Massachusetts and other Eastern States, were made in what were then called "Connecticut covered wagons," which toiled onward through the wilderness day after day, the pioneer and his family sleeping in or beside them at night. The forests were peopled with innumerable deer, so that the pioneer seldom wanted for excellent meat; but often when the journey was unexpectedly prolonged, the little store of supplies was exhausted, and the travelers were forced to depend upon roots to keep away the wolf of hunger.[1] Many of the pioneers had never seen an Indian; but the greater part of them had read or heard of their bloody deeds on the border, and met them for the first time with much trepidation. In almost every instance, however, the settlers were kindly received, and were often placed under obligations almost for life itself, to the generous and faithful deeds of the red men.

Many of the early settlers came into the county in the winter season, and often suffered severe hardships. Deep snows buried the indefinite trails from sight, and made progress through the forests exceedingly slow. But three miles a day were traveled at times for days together; and when these unusual delays caused a scarcity of food, as just alluded to, the situation of the pioneer, in the midst of a snow-covered forest, with wife and children looking to him for care and sustenance, was not an enviable one.

In the year 1789 Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe left their homes in New Haven, Conn., and journeyed through the wilderness to Windsor, in Broome county. They were brothers-in-law, Mr. Beebe having married the sister of Mr. Todd, and she shared the fortune of her husband and brother in their new and primitive home. Two years after their settlement in Windsor they became convinced that the valley of the Tioughnioga held out greater inducements for them than were offered in their present locality; they accordingly determined to penetrate still further into the wilderness. After a tedious journey, accompanied by the usual toil and hardship, they reached a point on or near the site of Homer village, where they erected the first rude dwelling constructed by white men within the limits of this county. These three pioneers reached their destination in the fall, and immediately built their house, which stood near the bridge on Main street, just north of Homer village. The dwelling was built mainly "of poles, twelve by fifteen feet." During the following winter the two men returned to Windsor for the remainder of their household goods which had been left behind. Instead of making the journey as anticipated, they were snow bound for six weeks, leaving Mrs. Beebe

[1] An old lady relating to us the hardships through which they had passed, remarked that, "had it not been for the deer that roamed at large, they should have suffered still more severely, and perhaps unto death, as roots and venison were their only food for many a long and gloomy day;" and the tears came in the eyes of this sainted mother of Israel as she told her tale of privation, suffering and sorrow. — Goodwin's *Pioneer History of Cortland County.*

alone in the wilderness, her only companions the howling wolves and other beasts of the forest. But her remarkable bravery and hopeful patience sustained her through the long period of loneliness and anxiety as to the fate of all that was dearest to her. It was an example of womanly heroism of which there are few parallels.[1]

The two men packed their goods in a canoe, and at the earliest possible moment started towards the waiting wife and sister. At Binghamton they were joined by John Miller, a native of New Jersey, and in due time reached the lonely woman. Mr. Miller explored the East river section, and then returned southward. In the spring he came into the county accompanied by John House, James Matthews, James Moore, Silas and Daniel Miller. All of these men located near the site of Homer village, Mr. Miller on lot 56, (now in Cortlandville); Messrs. Beebe and Todd subsequently settled on lot 42. Darius Kinney came to Homer in 1793, and other settlers in that vicinity rapidly followed, more particular records of which will be found in the history of the town of Homer. In 1797 Homer contained but ninety-two inhabitants.

In the year 1792 Joseph Chaplin came into the town of Virgil and made the first permanent settlement; he located on lot 50 and two years later moved on his family. He explored and surveyed the State Road from Oxford, Chenango county to the Cayuga lake during the first season, afterward employing assistants and fulfilling his contract for the construction of the road. It was completed in 1793–94; after which he brought in his family. About the same time a road was surveyed and partially cut through the wilderness from the south, near the river, until near the present site of Marathon village, when, diverging from the stream, it crossed the south line of lot number 72, about three-fourths of a mile east of the village of Marathon, and, continuing in a northerly direction, intersected the State road on lot 42 in Freetown and so passed on northward through the county to the Salina salt works, giving it the name of "the Salt Road." These two roads were the first in the county that were worthy of being called roads.

The next settlers came into Virgil in 1795, after which time, as will be learned in the history of that town, settlement was made from year to year, though not so rapidly as in some other portions of the county.

Ezra Rockwell and his sons, Thomas and Ezra, jr., came into the present town of Taylor in 1793; they were from Lenox, Mass., and settled on lot 78, a bounty for the father's services in the Revolution. Two years later (1795) Thomas Rockwell removed to Cincinnatus, occupying lots 9 and 19, the latter including the site of Cincinnatus village. Settlements in Taylor were few until after 1810.

The first actual settlers of the town of Marathon were Dr. Japheth Hunt and wife, then aged people, two sons, James and William, and three daughters, Betsey, Nancy and Hannah. The family came up the Tioughnioga in canoes in the year 1794, and located about a mile south of the site of the village. Settlements had progressed but to a limited extent by 1810. In the same year (1794) Nathaniel Potter, Jonah Stiles, Christopher Whitney, David Morse and Benjamin Brown located in the town of Truxton, and a large number of settlers had located in the town by 1810. Settlement within the present limits of Cincinnatus was begun in 1795, about which time John Kingman, Thaddeus Rockwell Zurial Raymond, Dr. John McWhorter, and Sam-

[1] A more detailed account of this event, and one that has some new light upon it, will be found in the history of the town of Homer.

uel Vining came in. By the year 1810 settlement in this town had advanced so that the population was about 1,500. Solon was first settled in 1794, by Roderick Beebe and Johnson Bingham, the former locating on lot 75, a portion of which has since been called Mt. Roderick; he was from Massachusetts and Mr. Bingham from Connecticut. During the succeeding five or six years settlement in this town progressed slowly.

In 1794 the first of those energetic men — men of brain as well as muscle — who laid the foundation for the present prosperity of the town of Cortlandville, made a settlement near the site of the present thriving village. Jonathan Hubbard and Moses Hopkins both came that year, the former becoming the owner of the greater part of the land on which the village now stands, and the latter locating on lot 64, just west of the village. They came in by way of Cazenovia and Truxton. Several accessions were made in the settlement during the years 1796 and '97, and from that time to 1810 pioneers came in rapidly, attracted by the natural features of the spot and in a greater degree, doubtless, by the influence of their predecessors. By the year 1810 the nucleus of a village was established, while a settlement of still greater activity existed at Port Watson. The lands in that vicinity had passed into possession of a few eastern men, the principal one of whom seems to have been Elkanah Watson, whose name appears in the records of the County Clerk's office with wonderful frequency from the year 1800 through the succeeding twelve or fifteen years, as the seller of lots in the village of Port Watson. Watson's home is given as in "Albany county (now Pittsfield), Massachusetts." Many of his sales were made by attorney, and will be more particularly referred to in the history of the town, in a subsequent chapter.

Settlement was begun in Freetown in 1795 and in Preble in the next year; the former town by Ensign Rice, who settled on lot No 2, which was drawn by Robert Smith, a soldier of the Revolution. Rice was a son-in-law of Smith and the latter also settled on the lot in 1800. James Cravath and John Gill were the first settlers in Preble, the former removing from Pompey Hill, whither he had migrated from Connecticut; he located on lot 68 and Gill on lot 76.

In the year 1797[1] Ebenezer Crittenden settled within the present town of Willet. He came from Barrington, Mass., married a wife in Binghamton, and, with their child, he pushed a canoe containing his family and household goods up the river to the chosen spot for their pioneer home. About twenty families had located in the town by 1810.

The town of Scott was settled in 1799; Lapeer in 1802 and Harford in 1803. In the latter but few families had arrived by

[1] Our authority for the date given above is Goodwin's *History*. French's *Gazetteer* gives the date of Crittenden's arrival as 1793; but it is probable that this is incorrect. In this connection the following statement from Elder S. G. Jones, of Virgil, who formerly lived there, is important. He says: "Do not make the mistake of crediting Ebenezer Crittenden with being the first settler of the old town of Cincinnatus (including Freetown, Marathon and Willet.) Elnathan Baker was the first settler and located on the east side of the Otselic, a mile and a half north of Dyer Hill. I saw his son fifty years ago — the Rev. Elnathan Baker. We visited the site of his father's log hut; it was then grown up with trees six to ten inches through. He said that the only white man he saw while they lived there was Dr. McWhorter. A young Irishman came to their cabin one day and reported that his father had been shot by an Indian; the bullet being lodged in his thigh. Dr. McWhorter extracted the ball, and after the wounded man's recovery he and his son went down the Otselic and the Susquehanna to their home. It was reported that he was shot in after years by the same Indian. North of the cabin of Mr. Baker was what was known fifty-eight years ago, as the "Indian orchard," comprising some fifty trees. The younger Baker says his father planted the seeds from which this orchard grew, and he saw the work done; the trees were growing when they left the locality, which was when he was ten years old. He died in Luzerne county, Pa.

1810. Peter Gray, a native of Fishkill, Duchess county, was the first white settler in Lapeer,[1] locating on lot 70. Peleg Babcock, with his brothers, Solomon and Asa Howard, came into the town of Scott in 1799, from Leyden, Mass. The former located on lot 82, with Solomon and Asa H. beside him on the same lot. Settlement in this town was slow, until later than 1810.

The population of the towns that had come into existence by the year 1810 as shown by the census report was as follows:

Homer,	2,975
Solon,	1,263
Virgil,	906
Cincinnatus,	1,525
Preble,	1,179
Truxton,	1,031

In the portion of this work which is to be devoted to a general review of the history of the county, it is unnecessary to follow farther the course of settlement in the different towns, as those matters will be treated in full detail in subsequent chapters The reader has learned in the foregoing few pages that, during the first decade of the present century, settlement by white people had become firmly established in nearly all sections of the county, while in the more favored localities it had progressed rapidly, with assurances of still faster growth in the immediate future. Lots in many sections had already been cut into smaller farms and were changing hands at gradually advancing prices. While the primeval forest still covered a large portion of the county, still the settlers, who had occupied their farms for periods ranging from ten to fifteen years, cleared acre after acre and, hampered as they were by numerous obstacles and trying circumstances which would in these days appear insurmountable, were rapidly placing their cleared lands under a state of cultivation.

The principal difficulty with which the pioneer had to contend was the absence of roads, mills and markets. The first authorized road in the county was the old State Road before alluded to as having been opened by Joseph Chaplin[1] and finished as far as his contract went, in 1794. This road extended from Oxford, Chenango county, to Ludlowville, on the eastern shore of Cayuga lake, a distance of about sixty miles. Coming into this county in the southeastern part, it passed through Willet, thence along the north line of the present town of Marathon and through Virgil.

At this time several roads had been opened through the northern part of what is now Onondaga county, and, in 1796, $500 was appropriated from the first money coming into the hands of the Surveyor-General for the improvement of the roads of the country. What the final result of this appropriation was, we have been unable to determine.

Within a few years after the opening of the State Road, and before 1800, a road from Port Watson to Solon was opened, and about the same time numerous short intersecting roads were laid out in different parts of the county. The main road from Cortland village to Virgil was opened in 1806.[2]

In the year 1807 the Salina and Chenango Turnpike Company was incorporated by the Legislature. The company com-

[1] Primus Grant, a colored man, purchased lot 504 and settled thereon in 1799. He died on his farm and was buried by the side of the "big brook."

[1] Mr. Chaplin was drowned a few years later in the Hudson river at Coxsackie. See history of town of Virgil.

[2] "At this period (1800) a road had been cut through to Virgil Corners, to intersect the State Road. Another had been cut through to Locke — now Groton; a third to McGrawville; a fourth to Truxton, and a fifth to Homer." — GOODWIN. It is probable that Mr. Goodwin's statement refers merely to the "cutting out" of these roads, or a portion of them at least, and not to their being opened and worked. The late Nathan Bouton gives the date of the opening of the road from Virgil to Cortland as 1806, and his authority on the subject can scarcely be questioned.

prised Samuel Coe, Reuben Cross, Chauncey Hyde, Daniel Hudson, Elisha Alvord, Joseph Smith, Samuel Trowbridge, Levi Bowen and John Ballard. Several of these men were residents of this county. The road was to run from Salina, through Onondaga Hollow to the north line of Tully; thence southerly through the towns of Tully, Homer, Virgil and Cincinnatus to Lisle, and thence to Chenango Point (Binghamton.) There were 6,000 shares of stock put in market, at $20 per share.

On the 4th of April, 1811, a road was authorized from Manlius to intersect the turnpike in the northeast corner of lot 87, in the town of Truxton.

June 2d, 1812, the Cortland and Seneca Turnpike Company was incorporated, with Jonathan Hubbard, David Jones and Parley Whitmore as corporators. The road began at the house of Daniel Miller in the town of Homer, and ran thence to Ithaca. The capital of the company was $25,000 divided into shares of $20 each. The company were authorized to erect a toll gate as soon as twelve miles of the road were finished. This road was not built, probably, until after 1816, as in that year the charter of the company was revived by the Legislature.

Much of the business of the Legislature from 1800 to 1820 was in connection with the incorporation of turnpike companies and other road matters; and in 1804 a Board of Turnpike Commissioners was appointed by the State, whose duty it was to inspect the State roads, hear complaints relative to the highways, and kindred duties. Their compensation was two dollars per day.

During the period under consideration grist-mills were exceedingly scarce in Cortland county, and, indeed, throughout Central New York; the nearest to most of the settlers were thirty or forty miles distant, and several of the earliest years of settlement had elapsed before there were any even at that distance. The prevailing substitute for mill-stones was an enormous mortar made by digging and burning a hollow in the top of a hickory or other hard wood stump, after the manner of the Indians. Into this the corn was put and pounded into coarse meal by the action of a heavy pestle attached to a sweep or spring-pole. This primitive method was followed even after mills were built at Onondaga Hollow, Manlius, Chenango Forks and Ludlowville; for it was not always that a journey could be made by inhabitants of Cortland county to either of those distant points with a small grist; they were all nearly or quite forty miles distant for most of the settlers of the county, and more than that for many. As there were no roads, the trail being followed by marked trees, with often considerable streams to ford, the grists being mostly transported upon "drays,"[1] or carried in a single bag on horseback, it will be readily imagined that "going to mill" was not the light task that it soon afterward became.[2] It was, therefore, a source of great relief to the early settlers of this county when Asa White and John Keep, of Homer, built the first grist-mill in the county, at Homer village, in

[1] The "dray" was simply a large crotched limb or tree, across which were nailed a few boards; to this the horse was attached.

[2] Mr. Orellana Beebe, of Taylor, informed Mr. Goodwin that he was compelled, one spring, in order not to neglect other necessary work, to send his ten-year old son to Genoa, after either grain or flour. The boy mounted the horse and started with three bags, each containing eight pounds of maple sugar, which would pay for three bushels of wheat. The distance was forty miles, and the road a line of blazed trees. Reaching his destination after a long and fatiguing day, the little fellow was filled with grief when informed by 'Squire Bradley that he could not have the grain. He was much relieved, however, when the kind man agreed to open a barrel of flour in the morning and give him the value of the sugar in that. With his precious load the boy reached the residence of Judge Bingham, on the Salt Road, at nightfall, where he was kept over night, and at ten o'clock the next day he turned the flour over to the admiring father and mother. Of such determined character were the boys of that day.

1798, which was followed within the succeeding two or three years by that of Jonathan Hubbard, on the west branch of the river and now within the corporation of Cortland village.[1] While these mills were not comparable in any sense to what is considered in this day as necessary in a good flouring mill, they were, nevertheless, a blessing to the pioneers, the magnitude of which can scarcely be appreciated. Other mills, both grist and saw-mills, succeeded each other in different parts of the county, as the needs of the inhabitants demanded — in Virgil in 1805; in Truxton in 1809, etc., as hereafter noted.

Previous to the beginning of the century most of the limited supplies of groceries used by the inhabitants of the county were procured in Manlius, or at other distant points whither it was necessary to go to get milling done; but it must not be supposed that "groceries" were then considered the necessity that they soon became, under the advance of civilization.[2] Maple sugar in any quantity the settlers could make on their own farms, and tea and coffee were not by any means a daily beverage with many of them until long after the period under consideration. By the year 1810, however, there were stores in the little villages of Homer, Cortland, Port Watson and a few other points in the county, which were a great convenience to the inhabitants and will be found further noticed in the subsequent town histories.

Religious and educational matters early commanded the attention of the people of this county. The first church was organized in the town of Homer as early as 1801, and religious services had been observed since 1793.[1] In June, 1807, a commodious house of worship was dedicated, with a sermon, by the Rev. Mr. Darrow. The edifice stood upon the site now occupied by the handsome brick church in rear of the "green" in Homer village. The organization of a Baptist church was effected through the joint labors of the inhabitants of Cortland, Port Watson, on the East river and in Homer, in the same year (1801) and a building erected in 1811, about "one-half mile north of the old court-house." A Congregational church society was formed in Tully (now Preble) in 1804, and in Virgil in the succeeding year. A Methodist meeting was held in the house of Jonathan Hubbard in Cortland in 1804, and a class was soon after formed, and other religious organizations rapidly followed the march of settlement in other and more remote portions of

[1] Jonathan Hubbard must have had an interest in the Homer (village) mill as early as 1800, as Mrs. Hubbard, of Cortland, possesses an article of agreement dated June 23d, 1800, made between Jonathan Hubbard (senior) and Asa White of the first part, and James Turner of the second part, whereby the first parties lease to Turner for the sum of fifty dollars, "a privilege of water to carry a fulling mill at their mills on lot number 45 in Homer, at all times when it does not damage their mills now erected," etc.

[2] "The early pioneers located in these dense forests erected their rude unadorned cabins, hoping for the sure rewards of industry, perseverance and economy. But they were often subjected to great inconvenience and suffering, for the want of the necessary articles of husbandry, and also those of subsistence. We have been told of instances of whole families living for successive weeks upon turnips and salt; of others who boiled roots gathered in the forest and ate them with a relish that is unknown to the epicurean lords of the present day. To them a mess of parsley presented by a neighboring hand was regarded as an act of marked and generous attention. Grain and potatoes were not to be had in the country. David Merrick (of Cortland) sent his team through the woods to Geneva by a neighbor, to whom he gave five dollars, just enough to purchase two bushels of wheat. It was procured and ground; but on the return one of the bags was torn open by coming in contact with a tree, and the flour of one bushel was lost; the remainder was emptied on its arrival by Mrs. Merrick into a four quart pan." — GOODWIN.

[1] The records in the County Clerk's office bear evidence that on the 20th day of April, 1805, the First Religious Society of Homer, represented by Thomas L. Bishop, Admatha Blodgett and Eliphalet Price, trustees, purchased for $1.00 six acres on lot 45, Homer village, "for the purpose of erecting a meeting house and all necessary outbuildings, and a burying ground."

the county, extended reference to which will be found in the proper course of the town histories herein.

Contemporaneous with the organization of religious societies and the building of churches, the establishment of schools was effected, the first of which was opened in Homer in the year 1798; the building stood near the railroad crossing just north of Homer village. A second one was built a little later on the northeast corner of the "green." A school was taught in Cincinnatus in 1797; in Marathon in 1803; in Preble in 1801; in Scott in 1803; in Solon in 1804; in Truxton in 1799; in Taylor in 1810; in Harford in 1806, etc. Indeed, in every neighborhood where there were families of children (and that was the rule in almost every neighborhood in early times) it was considered one of the first duties of the settlers to provide, by the most available means, for their education. It mattered little what were the conditions — how far the little ones must trudge through the woods, or how hard the seats they were compelled to occupy through each day — to school they were sent at the earliest possible time; thus assuring the intelligent communities that grew up throughout the county.

The information that we have been able to obtain as to the first birth in the county has not been very satisfactory; but it was probably that of Stephen Potter, of Truxton, in 1794. Mr. Potter's father was killed in the year 1798, by a falling tree. The first death in the county of which we find reliable record was that of Mrs. Thomas Gould Alvord, of Homer, in 1795.

It may not be uninteresting to close this chapter (which carries the general county history through the first decade of the century) with a brief reference to a few of the quaint names found among those of the early settlers. The gradual change in the character of names given to children has often been remarked; very few of the old bible, classical and heroic names are now inflicted upon offspring. This change will be a desirable one, or otherwise, according to the tastes of different persons. We find among the names of early Cortland county residents, numerous examples of the Asaphs, Zerahs, Keziahs, Zadocs, etc., of olden times; but perhaps the most astonishing of the entire list were those of Increase Hooker, Remembrance Curtiss, and, to cap the climax, Preserved Fish. Yet, after all, "What's in a name?"

CHAPTER VII.

THE SECOND DECADE.

Dwellings and Surroundings of Early Settlers — Household Conveniences — House Raising — The Pioneer's First Agricultural Work — "Logging Bees" — The Settler's Diet — Scarcity of Money — Advantages of Asheries — The Tioughnioga River as a Highway to Market — The Head of Navigation — Port Watson Village — The First Newspaper in the County — Its Chief Characteristics — Old Advertisements — The First Court-House — An Old Building Document — Village Rivalry — Further Organization of Turnpike Companies — Change of Boundary — The First Newspaper in Cortland Village — An Early Celebration — Struggle Over the Site of the Gaol — Its Final Location in Cortland — Newspaper Recrimination — The First Agricultural Society — The Old County Clerk's Office.

THE progress of settlement and improvement in Cortland county during the second decade of the century was not very rapid, although in the vicinity of the villages of Cortland and Homer the prospects were most encouraging. The war of 1812–15 retarded settlement here, as it did in all parts of the country not yet thickly popu-

lated, and Central New York, as we have previously hinted (and we believe the statement will apply with equal force to the comparatively small extent of territory within the present bounds of Cortland county), was for quite a period looked upon as about the least desirable point in the State for settlement; large tracts of it were hilly, and nearly the whole was covered with an exceptionally heavy growth of timber, much of which was of the hardest species of wood; moreover, the territory was remote from what promised to be the main thoroughfares of travel and commerce, making it inconvenient of access. But in spite of these objectionable features, many resolute and determined men, with little but their own brawny muscles to depend upon for their living and the improvement of their farms, had made long journeys across the wilderness country, or had pushed their frail barks, containing their earthly all, down the Otselic and up the Chenango or Tioughnioga, built their rude dwellings and begun a warfare upon the forest that would not cease until it was transformed into pleasant and profitable homes. These pioneers were, as a rule, poor in the world's goods; if they owned a yoke of oxen, a few very primitive household utensils, and a small stock of provisions, they were accounted in pretty good circumstances. The houses they first erected were scarcely worthy the name; yet who will say that there was not more of happiness and its twin, contentment, in many of them than is often found in the modern palaces of the wealthy? The dwelling of that period was frequently a mere cabin of small logs, such as could be handled by one man, covered with bark. It was not always that it contained a floor, and if so, it was made of split logs, or "puncheons," which did not always lie upon the precise level that was desirable. The settler who had neighbors within a reasonable distance in numbers sufficient to aid him in putting up a log house, of even small dimensions, was very fortunate; while the dweller in a house, say sixteen feet square, roofed with shingles, with a floor of boards and a glass window, was almost reverenced for his exalted worldly thrift.

The furniture in these early dwellings was of a character to correspond with the houses. A feather bed was a luxury occasionally, but not often, brought from the haunts of civilization. Bedsteads, other than such as the pioneer could construct of poles and strips of bark, were still rarer, while a real chair, as differing from a bit of slab split from a log, with holes bored in the corners and rough legs inserted, was seldom seen. The settler's clothing for the first few years after his arrival was eked out of what he brought with him; and this soon became patched out of all semblance of its former appearance. If a man came upon his lot alone, as was frequently the case, he put up his little cabin, sometimes miles from his nearest neighbor, and there lived as best he could, with the occasional kind service of a neighboring matron to bake his bread.

And new-comers were always sure of a warm welcome in any and every locality; their arrival meant so much more improvement, so many more dwellings, so many more acres cleared, so much nearer neighbors, so much more civilization. If a new house was to be raised for one of them, notice was given to all within a circuit of, perhaps, a dozen miles, resulting in the gathering of as many men, but men who were adepts at the business; and before night, under the blows of their skillful axes, and often the inspiriting influence of the nimble whisky jug (then considered a prime necessity in the work-field), the new-comer's dwelling was ready for his occupancy, and could be given its last touches by its owner at his leisure.

If he came very early in the season, he might get a little corn planted among the stumps of the little clearing, to the making of which his first and most energetic efforts were devoted. If he could not effect this, he labored early and late to prepare a piece of ground for the sowing of a little winter wheat in the fall. In this work the "logging bee" was a powerful factor in those days. Like the house-building, it often called together the settlers over a wide extent of territory, as neighborhoods are now viewed, with their teams, if they possessed them. A "boss" was appointed who superintended the work; the trees had been felled and the ground burned over, and the blackened logs were "snaked" with marvelous energy and rapidity into proximity with each other, when they were rolled into huge heaps and consigned to the flames. The workmen were sometimes divided into gangs, among whom a spirit of rivalry would spring up, and the work would be rushed on with redoubled energy, a liberal share of which was the indirect result of the circulating jug. So was prepared the land for the pioneer's corn and wheat. The winters were given up largely to the splitting of rails with which to lay the "worm" fence in the spring, and to providing plenty of wood for the great household fire-place.

The daily food of the early settler was necessarily of the plainest character. Corn bread, made of the coarse pounded meal, with occasionally a change to wheat, with pork as a standard meat, except when it gave way to venison procured of the Indians, was the usual order. Many of the settlers brought with them into the wilderness a cow, and sometimes a few sheep. But the keeping of the latter was attended with nightly risk from the prowling, sneaking wolves; while the bears made frequent raids upon the pens of the porkers. When the sheep were successfully wintered, their wool furnished the stock for the household clothing. Tea and coffee were rare luxuries for a time; but the great maples, which were found in all parts of the county, furnished maple sugar of the best kind; the big kettle and some buckets, or, much more often, the hand-hewn sap troughs, were an essential part of every farmer's utensils. Old residents of the country districts (now fast passing away) will recall many a hilarious evening in the midst of the "sap-bush," beside the glowing, crackling fire, over which steamed and bubbled the sweet extract.

Money was scarce — very scarce. If the early farmer fortunately raised more produce than he needed for his family, he might exchange it for tea or coffee, or linsey-woolsey, or a farming tool; but to get money for it was not so easily accomplished; there soon, however, arose a source from which the settlers of the county derived infinite benefit — that was the numerous asheries that were put in operation on all sides. For the product of these — the "black salts," or potash — there was always a good market. The land had to be cleared of the forest, and the wood could as well be burned in the arches of the asheries, except that it must be cut and drawn to them, as to burn it to waste upon the land; while the unconverted ashes, made to quite an extent in every household, were in good demand everywhere, or they were leached and boiled down to the black salts in the asheries, and then converted into potash.

For the marketing of potash, maple sugar, whisky, pottery (which pretty nearly covered the early productions of the county that could be profitably shipped away), the Tioughnioga was the great highway. In the spring, fall, and usually in June, when there was generally a freshet, the river was a rushing, turbid torrent on which scores of a species of craft called arks were floated

down to the Susquehanna, and on that stream to Harrisburg, Northumberland, Sunbury, and points on the Chesapeake bay. These arks were built, in some instances, ninety feet long, and with a depth of six or seven feet, carrying an enormous tonnage. After the building of dams was commenced in the river, the arks gave way to scows or flat boats, which, singly or in pairs, lashed together, could pass through the sluices, which the laws provided should be left in the dams, with a greater degree of safety than the ungainly arks.

Port Watson was the head of navigation,[1] which fact was influential in giving the village that sprang up in that vicinity a prestige which made it for a number of years a powerful rival of Cortland, and even of Homer. It had been surveyed and mapped in the year 1800, by Harvey I. Stewart, laid out into streets and put in the market by Elkanah Watson, whose residence is given in the records of the county as "late of Albany (Pittsfield), Mass.;" he afterwards lived at Port Watson, which received his name. Many of the sales of Watson's lands were made by attorney, as will appear in the town history of Cortlandville, and were made to Jonathan Hubbard, Nathan Blodget, Moses Hopkins, and later well known early settlers.

In the year 1810 an event occurred that must be looked upon as one of importance in any new community; this was the establishment in Homer village of the first newspaper published in the county. It was called the *Cortland Courier*, and was published by James and Samuel Percival. Our utmost efforts have been unavailing to secure a copy of this paper, before its name and proprietorship were changed; but James Percival afterward (in 1815) started the *Cortland Republican*, in the village of Cortland, and, judging by that journal, the pioneer newspaper of the county was a creditable production. In the year 1812 it seems to have passed into the hands of H. R. Bender and R. Washburne, who changed its name to *The Farmers' Journal*. In the following year (1813) Dr. Jesse Searl became its proprietor, changing its name to the *Repository*, and published it for about twelve years. Of this paper we have secured some stray numbers, to which a brief reference will be made, leaving the details of its experience, with that of other county journals, until further on. The *Repository* was, like all newspapers of that period, printed on yellowish-hued paper, coarse and rough in texture. There were four wide columns on each page, the type used being the size known as pica; there were no rules used between the columns. The distinguishing features of all early newspapers was the entire absence of all local news in their columns, while page after page was given up to detailing foreign events, which would seem to have possessed but little interest to the pioneers of a new country. If we look in their columns for local information, it must all be gleaned from the advertisements. From this source, in a number of the *Repository* of June, 1814, we learn that Robert Lewis had commenced stocking-weaving in "the town of Virgil, on lot 13, about 2 1-2 miles south from Mr. Gardner's tavern in Homer."

Thomas L. Bishop offered for sale "that well-known tavern stand at the lower end of this village (Homer) near where the East and West Turnpike crosses the North and South road leading from Onondaga to Owego."

[1] An Act of the Legislature passed April 15th, 1814, provided that the "Western branch of the Chenango river, commonly called the Onondaga branch, from the Forks on lot 66, in the town of Homer, in the county of Cortland, to the upper bridge, on lot 45, in said town, be and the same is hereby declared to be a public highway." The same act authorized the Judges of the Supreme Court to appoint commissioners to examine dams and direct alterations in them where necessary to make them conform to the laws.

Jacob Wheeler, of Cortland village, offered generous wages to a good journeyman blacksmith.

C. Burroughs, of Port Watson, "wishes to inform his friends that he has repurchased the Carding Machine lately occupied by L. B. & A. Rice, which he purposes to keep running the remainder of the season. He has also a new machine for carding Merino Wool — has employed E. W. Edgecomb to attend to carding, and flatters himself that those who favor him with custom will meet with entire satisfaction."

Rice & Jenks gave notice that "they have four machines now ready for carding wool at the upper and lower ends of this village. Terms — Six cents in cash down, or every tenth pound of wool; or ten cents per pound payable on the first of January next."

The "Homer Wollen Manufacturing Company" informed the public that "their Factory is now in operation, with a full complement of hands. They offer to take good clean wool and manufacture it at the halves, (that is deliver one-half of the cloth from the press in a workmanlike manner.)" This advertisement is signed by Jabez N. Cushman, Agent.

But perhaps the most unique advertisement in the paper is that of Joseph S. Merris, of Homer. It is headed, verbatim, with the words, "Blue Dying." There has been a vast amount of "blue dying" by distressed humanity since this little yellow newspaper was printed.

The list of letters, as printed, remaining in the Homer post-office comprises nearly one hundred names, scattered in all parts of the county. President Madison publishes his proclamation raising the blockade of American ports, and the details of the dethronement of Bonaparte are given, with other foreign intelligence; but not a line of news that might be termed local. During the year 1814 the *Repository* was published by Searl & Osborn. Further details of the press of the county will be given in a subsequent chapter.

An act of the Legislature passed April 5th, 1810, appointed Joseph L. Richardson, of Auburn, Nathan Smith, of Herkimer, and Nathaniel Locke, of Chenango, as a Board of Commissioners to select a site for a county court-house. The courts were then being, and had previously been, held since the county was organized in the school-house in Homer. Then began a strife between Homer, Cortland and Port Watson, each presenting, with all possible urgency, its claims as the most eligible point for the public buildings. The citizens of each village seemed to intuitively foresee that the county seat would some day become the center for a thriving village, and they labored accordingly. The hamlet at McGrawville also advanced its claims as the most eligible site for the court-house.

Jonathan Hubbard, of Cortland, was then in the vigor of his years and active on all occasions for the advancement of the village. In the public building matter he found his opportunity; he quietly visited all of the commissioners at their homes and it may be assumed that whatever of argument there was in favor of locating the buildings in Cortland, was energetically advanced. His argument embraced an offer of a free conveyance of land on "court-house hill," which offer was, undoubtedly, a strong inducement with the commissioners; for the county was poor. Mr. Hubbard had made an arrangement with Samuel Ingalls, who owned the land, by which it was to be conveyed to the county, Mr. Ingalls probably assisting in the matter. Mr. Hubbard also paid $1,000 out of his private purse towards the subsequent building of the court-house.

After a careful consideration of the different proposed locations, the commissioners finally settled upon the commanding emi-

nence just west of the village of Cortland, as it then existed (now known as Monroe Heights). As is common in similar cases, the decision provoked groans and complaints of dissatisfaction from the disappointed residents of the other localities mentioned.[1] But there was no appeal from the decision of the commissioners, and the first county court-house was erected in 1812–13 on what was long known as "Court-House Hill."

The court-house was a wooden structure, with a steeple and spire, its front facing the village; standing upon such an eminence, it presented a not insignificant appearance; while the view from its windows was a magnificent one. After the frame of the building was erected, it was finished by Josiah Cushman, who entered into contract with John Keep, Jonathan Hubbard and Mead Merrill, the regularly appointed Building Commissioners, on the 4th day of March, 1812. The original contract is now in possession of Mrs. Jonathan Hubbard, of Cortland, and has been kindly loaned us for insertion in this work. It will be read with interest, and contains, perhaps, the only attempt at a description of the building now extant: —

"Memorandum of an agreement made this 4th day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twelve between Josiah Cushman, of the town of Homer, in the county of Cortland, and State of New York, of the first part, and John Keep, Jonathan Hubbard and Mead Merrill, of town, county and State aforesaid, of the second part, as Commissioners for building the court house in said county, appointed in conformity to an Act entitled, 'An Act to fix the site of a court house and gaol in the county of Cortland,' dated April 5, 1810.

"Witnesseth — That the party of the first part has contracted and agreed with the parties of the second part to complete the house now erected for the court house in said county all above the underpining, except the two lower rooms in the south end, and the painting of the house; said house is to be finished as to the view of the outside, doors and windows, and the division of the house into rooms, above and below, as near as may be agreeable to the plan hereunto attached and signed by the parties; the outside to be covered with 1st rate pine stuff clapboards suitable thickness, from six to eight inches wide; fals sills to be cased; water-tables, corner boards, cornices, front door and side-lights similar to Mead Merrill's new dwelling house; windows to contain twenty-four lights of glass, eight by ten inches, and cased with single archatrives — the first deck of the step is to be made with two thicknesses of inch pine boards jointed, corked, pitched and well nailed; ballistrades with posts and urns, plain, square banisters on said deck; the second story to be finished with seiling, pilasters and doric capitals, with cornices to both stories, similar to the other part of the house; with a decent circular roof covered with tin, and a suitable iron spire, schrolls and vane. All below the first deck of the stept to be comenced by the

[1] A ludicrous representation of the commanding structure, and of some of the opposing interests, was prepared by a wag, which was rendered from existing circumstances, somewhat amusing. The "was-to-be" elegant and dignified edifice appeared quite accurately drawn on old-fashioned foolscap, rearing aloft its bold outlines of pine and hemlock, and looking down with defiant scorn on the outraged citizens of Homer and Port Watson. Two lines of heavy cordage were attached to it; one leading to Homer, the other to Port Watson, and to each of these were clinched the firm hands, as with a tiger's grasp, of several of the prominent and most influential leaders of the aggrieved parties. There they stood, pulling as if for life, resolved upon at least bringing the stupendous fabric to their notions of right, inasmuch as they had failed in securing the good will and approbating judgment of the self-willed commissioners. If they could not bring them to a correct judgment they could at least pull the magnificent structure down. But look again. On the other side of the "legal pile" stands William Mallory, grasping a still heavier piece of cordage, determined on contesting the skill and strength of the opposing forces. His heels are imbedded in the earth as he braces himself to the work of preservation. But the scene was suddenly changed on turning the paper over, though the ludicrous picture was measurably the same. There it stood an unyielding mass of timber. There stood the venerable Mallory holding on to his rope, while a smile, peculiar to him alone, played over his flushed countenance. But where were his hitherto unyielding opponents? Their cords had parted and forced them into the unpleasant attitude of turning double semi-circles down the steep pathway. — GOODWIN.

first day of July next, except the outside doors, which, together with the uper part of the stept are to be compleated by the first day of September next. The lower floors to be laid with white ash stuff 1 and 1-4th inches thick, plained, jointed and matched, and well nailed. The floors in the rooms above to be laid with pine stuff 1 and 1-4th inches thick, plained, matched and well nailed. The floors in the court room to be laid with second rate pine board, inch thick, plained, jointed, lined with 1-2 inch boards and well nailed. The court room to be finished in the form of Seneca court room; all the rooms and hall are to be seiled up to the bottoms of the windows with second-rate pine stuff suitable for the purpose, and the sides of the room and overhead are to be lathed, plastered and whitewashed. A Barr in square form and suitable size to be in the northeast room below, and a butery in the northwest room of suitable size and convenient shelves. A circular staircase in the porch, twist rail; said rail and banisters to be made of cherry timber. Outside doors to be made of two-inch stuff; two hall doors to be six-panel, and one of four panel; ten inside doors five of them to be made of 1 and 1-2 inch plank, and five doors made of 2 and 1-4th inch plank; the side door to be cased with single architrave; is to be five chimney pieces, one to be worth four dollars in court room; two in the jury rooms worth three dollars; two in kitchen and barr room worth two dollars and fifty cents; is to build a good and sufficient chimney with two fire places below and ditto above in the court room; and the other chimney to be finished, together with hearths, etc.; and to find all the materials for said house, and the labour, boarding the hands, etc., are to be provided at the expence of the said Cushman; all the materials are to be of suitable quality, well seasoned and proportionable to the purposes for which they are designed, as herein mentioned. The whole work is to be done in a neat, plain, substantial, workmanlike manner, and to be completed by the 15th day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirteen. In consideration of the same being done agreeable to the true intent and meaning of this article, the parties of the second part agree and bind themselves to pay the party of the first part, his heirs or assigns, the sum of sixteen hundred dollars, payable as follows: Two hundred dollars within two days from the date hereof; one hundred dollars by the first day of May next; one hundred dollars by the first day of July next; seven hundred dollars in materials for building when called for by the party of the first part, or in good merchantable neat stock by the first day of October next; one hundred dollars by the first day of March, 1814, and two hundred dollars by the first day of March, 1815; the two last payments to bear interest from the completion of the said house.

"In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals, the day and year first above written."

This old document is signed by the parties and witnessed by John Morse and Ira Brown.

The Board of Supervisors for the year 1814 directed by resolution that the court-house be "painted a spruce yellow, trimmed with white, or the whole white, as the commissioners for building the court-house shall direct." Also, "that the commissioners be requested to underpin the same with stone;" and "that the public ground around the court-house may be leased out for the term of three years from the first Tuesday of October inst., to be well stocked to grass at the expiration of the term of time." Another resolution directed that "the court-house be rented to Stephen B. Loundsbury, for the sum of twenty-five dollars for one year from the first Tuesday in October inst."

The privilege of occupying the court-house at a small rental, the occupant to keep the rooms clean, was extended to different persons for a number of years, as will be seen from the following extract from the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of 1819: —

"It is agreed between the board of supervisors of the county of Cortland and Peleg Babcock and Moses Hopkins as follows, to wit,: The said Hopkins agrees to pay the county eight dollars for the use that the said Babcock has made of the court-house previous to this date, and the

supervisors agree to let the said Babcock have the use of said house, except when wanted for public business, one year at twenty-five dollars, he keeping the same clean. The said Hopkins and Babcock agree to pay the said sum for the use of the same.

"Oct. 8, 1819.

"PELEG BABCOCK.
"MOSES HOPKINS.

"W. ADAMS."

Similar leases were made for the grounds belonging to the county.

On the 5th of April, 1813, an act was passed by the State Legislature, directing that the courts be held at the court-house in the village of Cortland on the 2d Tuesday in May and September, and the last Tuesday in December. But the settlement of these questions did not, unfortunately, end the rivalry between the villages, which will be again referred to a little farther on.

At this period much of the State legislation was directed to the opening and improvement of roads, many of which originated in, or passed through Cortland county. As railroad companies are organized in these latter days, so turnpike road stock companies were then organized as speculative enterprises, the companies building and improving the highways, and getting their recompense from the collection of tolls. On the 25th of March, 1814, was organized and incorporated what was called the Fifth Great Western Turnpike Road Company. The road was to begin at the termination of the Fourth Great Western Turnpike Road Company's road, in Homer (coming through Truxton from the northwest), and continue through Locke into Cayuga county. There were a thousand shares of stock provided for, at $20 per share. Jabez Bradley, David Ogden, John Tillotson, Elbert Palmer, Amos Todd, Enos Stimpson and Hezekiah Roberts were the incorporators.

On the 15th of April, of the same year, the Homer and Cayuga Turnpike Road Company was incorporated. Its road was to begin at Daniel Miller's house, in Homer (probably on lot 56, now adjoining the northeastern corner of the corporation of Cortland village), running thence to Cortland village near the court-house; thence to intersect the Fifth Great Western Turnpike Company's road, and so on westward. In this company there were 1,000 shares of stock at $20 per share. Henry Bloom, Wait Ball and John Kingman were designated as the persons who were to lay out this road.

On the 12th of April, 1816, the Homer and Geneva Turnpike Road Company was incorporated, whose road was to run from near the house of Daniel Miller, Homer, by the most eligible route to the house of John Ellis, in Dryden; thence along the State road to Cayuga lake in the town of Genoa; 1,500 shares of stock were in market at $20.

On the 28th of March, 1817, the Homer and Elbridge Turnpike Road Company was incorporated. The road was to begin on lot 45, in Homer, and run through the towns of Scott, Spafford, and the village of Skaneateles to Elbridge. The shares in this company were placed at $25, and 1,500 were in market. Other similar companies were organized and incorporated, some of which, undoubtedly, did not accomplish the object for which they were started; but many of them did, thus opening up better communication between this inland section and the settlements of more thickly populated regions, attracting more rapid settlement and generally benefitting the county.

On the 14th of April, 1815, the State Legislature passed an act which slightly changed the southern boundary of the county. One of its sections provided that "all that part of the line between the counties of Broome and Cortland, lying west of the Onondaga branch of the Chenango river,

shall be as follows: Beginning at the south-east corner of lot 600 (one of the lots of the Boston Ten Townships, so called), thence westerly on the south line of the north tier of the short or square lots, so called, to the west line of the county of Cortland; and the tier of lots called the long lots and the north tier of the short or square lots, so called, shall hereafter belong to the county of Cortland, and hereafter be the boundary line." Another provision of the same act related to the equalization of the taxes and the establishment of title on the lands affected by the change.

On the 30th day of June, 1815, an event of great importance to Cortland village, and, indeed, to the whole county, occurred in the establishment of a newspaper in Cortland village, by James Percival. This journal contained four wide columns on each page, was strongly Republican in politics, and appears to have been ably conducted, as compared with other papers of that period. But what was of still greater importance, probably, it gave the residents of this town and village a weapon with which to fight its bloodless battles with the rival villages. For a short time its utterances were of a peaceful nature, its very first number containing the following extended notice of the approaching celebration of the Fourth of July at Homer: —

"At a meeting of the young gentlemen of this village, held for the purpose of making arrangements relative to carrying this important resolution into effect, it was thought to be expedient and proper that a suitable respect be paid to an event so great, so noble and so joyous as that period of time when our national inpependence was declared and our rights secured. In a Republic which yet enjoys the fruits of our hard-earned liberty, who can forbear to honor this day and render a proper tribute to the memory of the patriot band who left us the long to be remembered inheritance at the expense of their blood!

"Under these impressions the Committee of Arrangements respectfully request the citizens of Cortland county, independent of political distinctions, to attend.

"Order.

"The day will commence with the discharge of cannon. The procession will form at the house of Major Enos Stimpson at 10 o'clock a. m., and will march from there to the meeting house in the following order: —

"The guard in front with martial music.

"Spectators from different parts.

"Elder citizens of the town and vicinity.

"Young gentlemen in general.

"Band of music.

"National flag borne by the son of a Revolutionary patriot.

"Singers.

"Ladies.

"Committee of arrangements.

"Marshals, mounted.

"Reverend clergy.

"Vice-president and orator.

"President and chaplain."

The exercises at the "meeting-house" consisted of prayer, vocal music, reading of the declaration of independence, instrumental music, oration, etc. The assemblage was entertained, after the public proceedings, at the house of Enos Stimpson, where "toasts were drank under the discharge of cannon."

While all this seems to the rising generation of to-day, accustomed as they are to displays of magnificence and grandeur on such occasions, like the puny efforts of children, it was in those days an event of great importance and was carried out with the greatest satisfaction to all the participants.

We have already referred to the active rivalry between the villages of Cortland, Homer and Port Watson. At this period, say from 1815 to 1820, their relative importance and prospects may be stated thus: Homer was the largest of the three places, and was growing faster than the others; its business was larger, at least at the begin-

ning of the period mentioned. Port Watson was the head of navigation on the river — a matter of no small importance at that time; what little manufacturing and milling had developed was principally in that direction, and the sales of lots into which the land had been divided, on both sides of the stream and its branches, was pushed with vigor; it will be acknowledged, even at this late day, that, as a site for a village, Port Watson was admirably chosen. But Cortland had the court-house; it was irrevocably settled that this village would be the county seat, the importance of which fact was not underestimated by settlers. Moreover, among its business men were some of bold enterprise and indomitable energy. Asahel Lyman had established a store, and had come to stay. William and Roswell Randall, two men who were to exercise a powerful influence upon the growth of the village, had decided in its favor, as against Port Watson, and were well established in mercantile business, in distilling and the manufacture of potash. This situation of affairs in the rival villages, coupled with the establishment of a newspaper in 1815, as alluded to above, were sufficient to indicate to the sagacious observer, that sooner or later Cortland village would take the lead; but the others were not disposed to acknowledge that fact, nor to permit its consummation without a struggle. Hence the bitter rivalry, the recrimination by the editors of the opposing newspapers, and the efforts on the part of communities and individuals to promote the growth and advancement of their own localities at the expense of the others. Out of this feeling grew the struggle over the location of the county gaol and the attempt to secure the removal of the court-house to Homer village.

On the 15th of April, 1817, the Supervisors were authorized to raise a sum not exceeding $5,000, by tax, for the purchase of a site and the erection of the jail building. Moses Hopkins, the enterprising pioneer, Billy Trowbridge and George Rice were made commissioners to superintend the building of the structure. A meeting of the Board of Supervisors was ordered for the second Tuesday of May, succeeding, "and if in their opinion the gaol should be located on the flat in Cortland village, they are empowered to purchase a lot and erect the building thereon;" otherwise they were to occupy the lot now owned by the county (on the hill). The latter site was decided upon; but it appears, naturally enough, that there were men in the Board of Supervisors, as well as out of it, who would let no opportunity slip by which they might benefit Homer village as against Cortland, and a bold attempt was made to secure the location of even this unimportant county building at that point. The development of the scheme may undoubtedly be traced in the following action of the Board of Supervisors, in October, 1816: —

"*Resolved*, That the minds of the board be known whether it be lawful to build the gaol on the public grounds separate from the court house.

"Ayes — Messrs. Holland, Sherwood, Hedges, Rice, Lucas and Babcock.

"Nays — Phelps.

"*Resolved*, That there be three commissioners appointed to superintend the building of a gaol.

"*Resolved*, That Obadiah Boies, Wm. Lucas and George Rice be commissioners to superintend the building of said gaol.[1]

"*Resolved*, That the site of gaol be altered from where it now stands.

"Ayes — Phelps, Lucas, Babcock and Hedges.

"Nays — Holland, Sherwood and Rice.

"*Resolved*, That there be a petition presented to the honorable the Legislature of this State praying the appointment of three disinterested men to alter the site of the gaol.

"Ayes — Phelps, Lucas, Babcock and Hedges.

[1] These names would indicate a change in the Building Commission since first appointed.

"Nays — Holland, Sherwood and Rice.

"Motion made to reconsider the vote taken to petition the Legislature to appoint three commissioners to alter the site of the gaol.

"Motion lost.

"*Resolved*, That the vote taken to enter the protest of Messrs. Rice, Sherwood and Holland be reconsidered.

"Unanimous.

"*Resolved*, That instead of entering said protest on the clerk's book it be kept on file in his office.

"*Resolved*, That the clerk shall, at the request of any individual, give a certified copy to any individual of any proceedings or writings of the Board of Supervisors, then in his hands, at the expense of said individual

"*Resolved*, That the treasurer redeem all county orders presented to him with the first money that comes into his hands.

"*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay five hundred dollars to Obediah Boies. William Lucas and George Rice, the Commissioners appointed to superintend in building a gaol in the county of Cortland, of the first money that comes in his hands not otherwise appropriated.

"*Resolved*, That there be a committee of five chosen to form or procure a draft of a gaol for this county by December term.

"*Resolved*, That John Keep, John Miller, John Ballard, William Mallory and Samuel G. Hathaway be the above committee."

The *Republican* newspaper, to which reference has already been made, passed out of the control of Mr. Percival at the end of September, 1815, with the following announcement: "The public are informed that from this day I shall relinquish my concern in the office of the *Cortland Republican*, published by Osborn & Campbell, whose talents are ample and whose political tenets are orthodox."

In the issue of this paper of November 1st, 1816, a long letter appeared signed "C. V.," in which the correspondent speaks of the unscrupulous effort of the Supervisors to fix the site for the gaol in Homer, when the court-house was in Cortland; the writer then proceeds to show how entirely out of place the jail would be in Homer, although that village would pay the most money to have it in their midst. It appears that a meeting had been held two evenings previous to the issue of the paper containing this letter, at the house of Moses Hopkins, of which Colonel Obadiah Boies was chairman and Roswell Randall secretary. The following resolutions were passed: —

"*Resolved*, That we view with deep detestation and abhorrence the late conduct of a majority of the Board of Supervisors, in surreptitiously and under false and deceitful pretenses, endeavoring to remove the site of the public buildings, established by Legislature.

"*Resolved*, That we regard with equal abhorrence the conduct of a junto of ambitious and corrupt demagogues, aided by an upstart and hollow-hearted office-seeker, whose tergiversations are as notorious as his apostasy, in endeavoring to change the site aforesaid, heedless of the contentions and bitter animosities which will rankle in the bosoms of the two contending interests in the county."

Other newspaper letters of a very bitter character followed, but never a word of editorial on the subject. It was charged that a committee traveled over the county obtaining signatures to a petition for the removal of the site to Homer, at the same time representing that their efforts were directed towards fixing it "on the flat" in Cortland; and that signatures were obtained of men who were not present, etc. Meetings were held at James Chatterton's house in Virgil, in Solon, in Cincinnatus, and perhaps other southern towns, to protest vehemently against locating the site in Homer.

The result of the matter appears in an editorial in the *Republican* of March 7th, 1817, as follows: —

"We have the pleasure of informing the friends of justice, that the attempt of a few designing men to rob the citizens of the county of their rights, has completely failed — that the intrigue and deception has been exposed and that they

have been defeated; not because they have not made every exertion which could be resorted to in a desperate cause; but justice was not on their side. The bill was lost in the Assembly."

The editor closes his remarks with a brief reference to the "deep-rooted and deadly hostility of the Homer village people to the growing prosperity and respectability of our village;" which was certainly strong enough language for the most ardent Cortland advocates.

The first jail was accordingly erected in 1817–18 on "Court-House Hill," a little north of the court-house; it was a square brick structure, two stories in height; the cells being made of heavy maple planking. It appears to have occupied several years in building, as the Board of Supervisors in the year 1825 resolved to "receive the jail as it now is and discharge the commissioners from any further service respecting said jail." The commissioners were Obadiah Boies, Wm. Lucas, Geo. Rice.

This controversy was only one feature of the strong feeling that lasted for years between the rival villages, and served as an unfailing text for scathing editorials in the newspapers of the different localities for years.

On the 4th of November, 1815, Elnathan Andrews, Luther Geere, David Woodcock, Parley Whitmore, Wm. Mallory and Oliver Wiswell gave notice in the newspaper that they would apply to the next Legislature for a grant to establish a road from Daniel Miller's house in Homer, to Cortland; thence to Dryden and thence to Ithaca. Previous to this date there was no road running from Cortland toward East river, except as travelers went by Homer village and then over the hills.

A similar publication was made in the following year (1816) that the Legislature would be petitioned for authority to open a road through Cincinnatus, Solon, Truxton, Fabius and Pompey to the Salt Springs. This highway became known as the "Salt Road;" it was probably constructed in 1819 or 1820, as we find notice of a meeting to be held in Truxton on the 12th of March, 1819, to organize the Onondaga and Chenango Turnpike Company. In this latter year the Legislature was also petitioned for a turnpike road from Cortland to Virgil Four Corners; thence to the Susquehanna and Bath Turnpike and on to Owego.

On the 30th day of March, 1818, a meeting was held at Hopkins's Hotel, in Cortland, for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society. After discussing the subject, the following resolution was adopted: "*Resolved*, That if our neighbors and the surrounding towns will concur therein, we will form ourselves into an association to be known by the name and style of 'The Agricultural Society of the County of Cortland.'" This meeting resulted in the organization of the first society of the kind in the county, which will be further described in its proper place.

Previous to the year 1819 the county records had been kept in different places in the care of the clerks, or in the court-house after 1813, and, of course, exposed to danger from fire and loss. On the 12th of March an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the Board of Supervisors to raise the sum of $1,200 by general tax, with which to purchase a site and build a fireproof building for the safe deposit of all public records. The second section of the act reads as follows: —

"James Chatterton, Samuel G. Hathaway and Grove Gillett shall be a Board of Commissioners to purchase a suitable lot to erect said building on, which lot shall front the main street in Cortland village, and also to superintend the erection of said building; and the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, may draw their order on the treasurer of said county for the said sum of $1,200 whenever it may come into his hands."

This action resulted in the well known building which sufficed as a County Clerk's office for nearly sixty years (until 1876), occupying the site of the present handsome and substantial structure. It became a well known landmark to every resident of the county; and although it was often, in late years, the subject of ridicule, and constantly menaced with danger the valuable records kept in it, it withstood both for the long period mentioned.

The equalized valuation for the different towns of the county, as fixed by the Board of Supervisors, for the year 1820, was as follows: —

	REAL.	PERSONAL.	TOTAL.
Preble,	$109,322	$ 3,286	$112,608
Homer,	578,236	27,606	605,842
Virgil,	180,519	7,381	187,900
Solon,	158,024	1,434	159,358
Truxton,	322,213	8,662	330,875
Scott,	84,579	844	85,423
Cincinnatus,	92,280	9,287	101,567
Freetown,	64,339	6,309	70,648
Harrison,	75,552	4,064	79,616
Willet,	62,236	2,057	64,293
	$1,728,200	$70,930	$1,799,130

The same Board of Supervisors resolved that the bounty for killing wolves in the county should be twenty dollars, and seven dollars and fifty cents on whelps. And that was only sixty-four years ago. They also resolved that the county should pay to William Lucas forty-five dollars for the use of a certain house near Homer village for the term of two years, for the purpose of keeping paupers. Peleg Babcock was at that time occupying the court-house, and caring for it at a certain rental, and the Supervisors resolved to retain him in the position for another year, for twenty-five dollars, "by his giving surety." He was also authorized to "make a good picket fence from the northeast corner of the court-house to the southeast corner of the gaol, with a gate through the same," and present his bill for the same.

During this decade (from 1810 to 1820) changes were made in the towns of the county by the formation of Scott from Preble, April 14th, 1815; of Freetown from Cincinnatus, April 21st, 1818; of Marathon from Cincinnatus (as "Harrison") on the same date, and of Willet from the same town on the same date.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE THIRD DECADE.

Condition of the Community — Abandonment of the Susquehanna as a Freight Highway — The Erie Canal Project and its Influence on the County — The Constitutional Convention of 1821 and the Changes Wrought thereby in the County — The First Railroad Charter — Salina and Port Watson the Terminal Points — More Turnpike Companies Incorporated — The Canal Mania — The Syracuse and Port Watson Canal Project — Other Internal Improvements — Statistics.

THE opening of the third decade of the century found the inhabitants of the several small villages in Cortland county still striving under somewhat adverse circumstances and surroundings to supply the community at large with their household necessities and the few luxuries then in demand, at the same time gradually building up for themselves mercantile and manufacturing interests which they hoped would in future years remunerate them for their early labors. The farming communities were still engaged during liberal portions of each year in divesting their lands of the original forest and putting them under cultivation; for them it was still a period of severe toil

and privation, with the satisfaction at the close of each year, if no ill fortune had overtaken them, that they were in no worse circumstances than they were at the beginning, while their farms were slowly but surely appreciating in value, productiveness and consequent revenue. Much of the land in the county, particularly in the outlying districts, was still either forest-covered or thickly studded with stumps of all sizes, while the inhabitants were yet, to a large extent, dwelling in log houses. Markets for the limited surplus produce were distant and not easily accessible; the eight to ten days' journey to Chenango Forks; six to eight to Ludlowville or Manlius Square, of the earlier days, were things of the past, to be sure; but Homer and Cortland were still a long distance from some portions of the county, when the character of the roads was considered, and their markets were not very favorable to producers, chiefly on account of the long distances all household goods had to be hauled by team; and money, as used for a medium of exchange with the farming population, was very scarce.

While the roads had been opened with distant and populous places, most of them were still anything but well kept highways. Goods and farming implements came into the county chiefly from Albany, by way of Schenectady, thence through the canal to Little Falls, then through Wood's Creek, Oneida lake, the Onondaga river (as it was called) and the Tioughnioga; or, by land from Albany and Utica direct; these were long and expensive routes, and necessarily caused high prices, which were onerous to the farmers and mechanics. The surplus produce, and the whisky, potash, pottery ware, maple sugar, etc., which were exported from the county, still found their way largely down the Tioughnioga and Susquehanna rivers in arks and scows, or were transported to distant markets with teams; but within a few years after the beginning of the decade, the waterways, as routes for the transportation of freight were abandoned, and the intermittent occupation of the old pilots and captains in the county, who plumed themselves considerably upon their reputations as successful navigators of the freshet tides of these capricious streams, was gone forever.

It will be understood, therefore, that the inhabitants of Cortland county, from the highest to the lowest and from the remotest boundaries to the busiest centers, felt the deepest interest in the great project of a canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson river, which promised to bring ample and economical transportation facilities even so near as thirty-three miles from their doors.

This was a period, also, of great political activity; the great struggle of 1816,[1] which which had placed De Witt Clinton in the Governor's chair was still fresh in the public mind, and that statesman was preparing

1 "Here (in this county) the parties were arrayed under the respective banners of Republican and Federal. John Miller, of Truxton, was the Republican candidate for Member of Assembly. In the bitterness of the campaign Mead Merrill accused him of stealing meal from a building occupied by one Scott, a tenant of Miller's. Miller sued Merrill for slander and the defense interposed was a justification of the charge. The action was brought on for trial at the Cortland circuit. The public mind of the county was deeply agitated. Counsel of the highest standing in the State were retained. The celebrated and peerless Elisha Williams, of Hudson, and Thomas J. Oakley, of Poughkeepsie, conducted the case for the plaintiff; and John W. Hulbert, of Auburn, then the most eloquent advocate of Central New York, was the leading counsel for the defense. The court-room was filled to its utmost capacity during the several days of the trial. The severe and exciting cross-examination of John Scott by Williams is still remembered by those who heard it. The witness suffered himself to be overwhelmed in contradictions, became hopelessly confused and lost his balance of mind. Notwithstanding, at the the close of the evidence the defense claimed that the circumstances proved had established a justification of the charge, while the plaintiff claimed that the defense had failed. And then ensued a forensic display before the jury, not since surpassed, or perhaps equaled, in the courts of this county. The jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff."—Hon. Horatio Ballard's *Reminiscences*.

for his work in the interest of the canal enterprise. The period of political activity continued until 1820, which campaign was, perhaps, the most exciting since that of 1816. In those days the house of Moses Hopkins, in Cortland village, appears to have been a sort of political headquarters, where the prospects of prominent candidates were discussed, "slates" made (if such political accessories were then known), and the omnipresent cheap whisky of that period absorbed in unknown quantities.

The Erie canal was completed and opened in 1825, which auspicious event was hailed with the utmost satisfaction in this county, as well as in all other parts of the State.[1] The farmers realized that now they could find shipment, either by their own efforts or through the leading merchants of Cortland and Homer villages, for all of their surplus produce, as near as Syracuse or Manlius, while merchants and manufacturers accepted with pleasure the fact that transporting their wares into the county would be both greatly facilitated and reduced in cost.

In the spring of 1817 Samuel Nelson became a resident of Cortland—a man who subsequently attained to the highest judicial honors in the gift of his country. He was a delegate from this county to the Constitutional Convention of 1821, and the youngest member of that body. Under the constitution passed by that convention, the judiciary of the State was reorganized. In the legislative session of 1823 the State was divided into eight circuits, corresponding with the eight Senatorial Districts, for which eight circuit judges were to be appointed by the governor and the Senate. Cortland county became part of the Sixth Circuit. James Clapp, of Oxford, David Woodcock, of Ithaca, and Samuel Nelson were candidates for the appointment of judge in the Sixth Circuit. All of them were strongly supported, but Nelson won the prize.

Previous to the Constitutional convention alluded to, sheriffs and county clerks were appointed by a tribunal located in Albany, known as the "Council of Appointment." This tribunal was abolished by the convention, and those offices made elective by the people. In 1823 Samuel Hotchkiss, who had been deputy county clerk in this county since 1815, was elected clerk, and held the office for twelve successive years, being an efficient and popular officer. In the same year Moses Hopkins was elected sheriff.

In the year 1829 the Salina and Port Watson Railroad Company was incorporated. Jedediah Barber and Andrew Dickson, of this county, were members of the original company. The road was to start at Salina, run through Syracuse and Onondaga Hollow to the "headwaters of the Tioughnioga; through Homer to Cortland, and thence to Port Watson." Cars on this road could be run, under the law, by either steam or animal power. The capital stock was fixed at $350,000, and seven years were allowed for the completion of the road; if not finished in that time the law became inoperative. This road never went any farther, that we can learn, than the application to the Legislature.

[1] The enthusiastic editor of the *Cortland Republican* in commenting upon a report of the Canal Commissioners in 1818 (De Witt Clinton, S. Van Rensselaer and Myron Holley), said: "Remote as we are (it was thirty-three long miles from the canal) it is not probable we shall experience any immediate benefit from it." But along the line of the canal the editor foresaw great possibilities. "The yelling of savages and the howling of wolves," he predicted, "will be succeeded by the sounds of the axeman's blows and the bleating of the flocks;" and

"'Where the hooting owl doth to the moon complain,' anthems will be chanted to the God of Nations in those churches which a pious and thankful people will consecrate to his service. Schools and academies will rise where now the savage huts, scattered promiscuously through the dreary wilderness, are the only human habitations."

This movement indicates that there were prominent men in the county who still believed in the future importance of Port Watson; it was acceding considerable to project a railroad through the villages of Homer and Cortland, and make its proposed terminus at that point; and that was but fifty-five years ago.

Up to this period of the county's history there had been three terms of court held; but the Board of Supervisors of 1824, with an eye to economy, passed the following resolution: —

"*Resolved*, That we petition to the next Legislature to abolish the September term and alter the May term from the second Tuesday to the last Tuesday."

It may not, moreover, be uninteresting to know that the same Board passed the following prudential and humane measure: —

"*Resolved*, That Jabez B. Phelps and Martin Keep be a committee to see to the prisoners' fare, and procure a lightning rod and one stove for the court-house."

We find no record of any such change as that contemplated by the first of these two resolutions. Three years later, however, (in 1827) the time of holding the terms of courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace was changed to the third Tuesday in April, the second Tuesday in September, and the second Tuesday in December.

The opening of roads, the improvement of those already open, and the organization of turnpike companies, continued to occupy the attention of the people during this decade. In 1824 the Onondaga and Cortland Turnpike Company was incorporated, with Barak Niles, John Miller, Elijah Miles and Joshua Forman as corporators. The act of incorporation provided that the company should make a good and sufficient turnpike road, to begin at Syracuse and running thence "until it intersects the Onondaga river, in the town of Truxton," and thence by the mast eligible route to the dwelling of John McWhorter, in Cincinnatus." There were 1,250 shares of stock at $20 per share, with the usual provision for toll-gates, tolls, etc.

In the same year Beach Ufford, Jeremiah Whipple and Ichabod S. Spencer were appointed by the State as Commissioners to lay out a road from Canastota, by the most eligible route, to intersect the Geneganselet turnpike in the town of Cincinnatus.

In 1825 Bildad Beach, Samuel Tyler and Barber Kinion were appointed Commissioners to lay out a road from the canal at Camillus, Onondaga county, by way of Marcellus and Otisco to Port Watson.

By way of further internal improvements it was undoubtedly encouraging to the residents of the county in 1825, as it certainly is amusing to the present reader, to learn that it was seriously contemplated in that year to construct a canal from Syracuse to Port Watson, and that the Canal Commissioners were instructed to make the necessary examinations as to the feasibility of the project. Two years later (in 1827) we find the following on a kindred topic in the *Cortland Journal*: —

"Upon the subject of the canal from Manlius to Chenango Point, little has been said. It is of so much importance to the commercial and agricultural interests of this section of the State, that we hope spirited efforts will be made to have an act passed in relation to it. More on this subject hereafter."

But, contrary to the last editorial sentence, little or nothing was heard on the subject thereafter. About that period it was looked upon as a remarkably poor season for canals when two or three new ones were not projected and discussed.

In April, 1826, an act of Legislature was passed making Cortland county a part of the Sixth Senatorial District, and giving it two Members of Assembly. John Lynde and Augustus A. Donnelly were elected to the Assembly in that year.

Down to the year 1829, although the

village of Cortland had become a thriving little place of several hundred inhabitants, and settlement in the vicinity had progressed considerably, these places were still a part of the town of Homer; but on the 11th of April, 1829, an act was passed by the Legislature dividing Homer in halves, and designating the southern half as the town of Cortlandville. The boundaries of this town were changed in 1845 by the addition of lot No. 10, and that part of lot 9 of the town of Virgil lying east of the Tioughnioga river, and the following year that portion of lot No. 8 lying east of the river in Virgil was also annexed.

At the close of the third decade the population of the towns then in existence was as follows: Homer, 3,307; Solon, 2,033; Virgil, 3,912; Cincinnatus, 1,308; Preble, 1,435; Truxton, 3,885; Scott, 1,452; Freetown, 1,051; Marathon, 895; Willet, 804; Cortlandville, 3,673.

CHAPTER IX.

FROM 1830 TO THE PRESENT TIME

Beginning of the Third Decade — Condition of the County at Large — New Roads Completed Organized — The County Poor House — Building of the New Court House — Railroad Agitation — Incorporation of Two Companies for Lines through Cortland — Organization of the Second Agricultural Society — Political Reminiscences — The Leaders of Other Days — The Campaign of 1844 — Changes in Congressional and Senatorial Districts — Town Boundaries Altered — Town Genealogy — Development of Dairying Interests — Public Education — The Old Stage Routes — The Railroad Again — A New Charter Obtained — The Road Finished — Public Demonstrations of Satisfaction — Effects on Villages — The First Death Penalty — Political Events — Building of a New Jail — New Railroad Connections — Statistics.

BETWEEN the events recorded in the last chapter and the middle of the century, the history of Cortland county may be briefly summarized; it was a period of slow but sure growth in all directions; the establishment of new business enterprises to meet the wants of the increasing population; the multiplication of churches and schools; the beginning of manufacturing in a small way; the clearing of lands in the country districts, with improvement in the methods of farming and the development in the later years of the dairying interest. All this was interspersed and varied with projects and rumors of projects for opening railroad communication with the outside world.

There was some legislation during this period which had a bearing upon this county. In June, 1832, Cortland, Tioga and Tompkins counties were made to constitute the 22d Congressional District, by act of Legislature; the district was entitled to two members. Samuel G. Hathaway, of Solon, was elected in that year. The Oxford and Cortlandville Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1835, for the purpose of building a road from Oxford across the "new bridge in Cincinnatus," on lot No. 19, running through Solon to Cortland village. Austin Hyde, Benjamin Butler, Chas. Kingman, Roswell Randall, John F. Hill and Harry McGraw were made commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock of the company.

It was in this year also that the village of Homer was incorporated. Its population was then considerably less than a thousand; but it was still the leading business center of the county and continued such for more than twenty years, in spite of the fact that Cortland was the county seat.

In March, 1830, the court-house, with 188 acres of land, was purchased by the county for $5,000. The house was originally erected by John Keep, and the beginning of the century [illegible] were raised, $3,000 of which were borrowed of the State and the remainder raised by tax in the years 1837, 1838 and 1839. The purchase was made from Mr. —— Munson, who bought of Mathew S. Bennett, the purchaser from Mr. Keep. Mr. Munson was the first [illegible] Supervisors followed by Mr. —— Seymour, Alvah Harmon, Sanford Bouton, Morgan L. Hopkins, Nathaniel Boynton, Alvah Benjamin, Chester Kings, —— Sanford, A. W. Gates and Jerome Wheeler, the present incumbent. The brick structure was erected under Mr. Gates's administration, and the new building for the insane in 1882.

In the year 1837 the new court-house was erected, the act being passed in April. William Bard, Chester W. Edgcomb and Anthony Freer were the commissioners. Although the site of the old building was a most commanding one, it was found, as the business of the courts increased, that the steep hill which had to be ascended several times each court day by all who were interested in the proceedings, was a serious inconvenience; the changing of the site was therefore left to the Supervisors, a majority of whom decided in favor of the removal. A sum not exceeding $6,000 was to be raised from the county and $4,000 more was authorized to be raised for the purpose, the selection of the new site being left to the Supervisors at their next annual meeting. After considerable deliberation the present location on the corner of Court and Church streets was selected and the [illegible] began. The [illegible] of the fallow [illegible] grounds.

In 1837 an act was passed authorizing the construction of a jail on the new building lot, and the sum of $4,000 [illegible] pursuance of this provision a jail was constructed in the rear basement of the court-house, which afterward gave place to the present substantial stone structure built above the ground. Additional sums of $3,000 were borrowed in the years 1838 and 1839, with which to complete these public buildings.

The continued agitation of railroad projects resulted, in the spring of 1836, in the in the incorporation of the Syracuse, Cortland and Binghamton railroad company.

Shut in, as the inhabitants of this county had been, from easy and rapid communication with the rest of the State, which was more fortunate in this respect, the exultant anticipations of the farmers along the rich valleys of the Tioughnioga and the tradesmen of the prominent [illegible] over this prospect of a railroad, may be left to the imagination of the reader. But railroad building was not then so well understood as it became within the succeeding few years, and this project was doomed to abandonment. This organization was given four years only in which to construct their road, the route of which is indicated by its name. Among the commissioners who were authorized by the act to receive subscriptions for stock we find the names of Henry Stephens (afterwards president of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad), C. W. Edgcomb, Augustus Donnelly, Samuel G. Hathaway, [illegible] Reed, Russell Randall and William Randall. These names of Cortland county men, or many of them, are found in connection with all measures of importance; to them is undoubtedly due much of the credit for the early growth of the material interests of the county. Another railroad company incorporated that [illegible] the Owego and Cortland. Its road was to run from Owego through Harden and thence to Cortland and Homer. Neither of these projects [illegible] was consummated; but their incorporation

shows that the idea of railroad communication with the other portions of the State was not allowed to sleep, imbued the inhabitants with faith in their ultimately standing on a level with other localities in this respect, and gave assurance that it was a question of only a short period before the locomotive and its train would dash through the fertile valleys of the county.

On the 1st of October, 1838, the existing County Agricultural Society was organized, with a board of officers comprising many of the more prominent men in the county. The first fair was held that year, continuing with increasing interest from year to year, until a spirit of emulation was aroused in the farming and mechanical classes which resulted in great and permanent benefit. The history of this society will be found in its appropriate place in these pages.

During the period from 1840 to 1845, or a little later, politics were uppermost in Cortland county, as well as in other parts of the country. Here the Whigs were a little in the majority, and they were quite ably marshaled by the prominent local leaders, among whom may be mentioned William Andrews, David Mathews, Harry McGraw, Cephas Comstock, John J. Adams, Tercius Eels, Alanson Carley, Isaac A. Gates, Gideon Babcock, Joel B. Hibbard, Danforth Merrick, Jedediah Barber, James C. Pomeroy, Daniel Hawks, and others. The Democrats, if inferior in numbers, were not so in political prominence and ability. Their hosts were under the leadership of such men as Joseph Reynolds, Samuel G. Hathaway, Henry Stephens, Roswell Randall, William Bartlit, Edward C. Reed, Townsend Ross, George Ross, J. De Puy Freer, Anthony Freer, John Gillet, Alanson Coats and others among the older heads; with Horatio Ballard, Henry S. Randall, Frederick Hyde, Henry Brewer, William H. Shankland, James S. Leach, William P. Lyndes, Andrew Dickson, William B. Allen, S. G. Hathaway, jr., and Oliver Glover as the younger element.

The *Whig* and the recently established *Democrat* were the organs of the respective parties, and their editors and contributors made the local campaign a lively and interesting one. The *Whig* made the most of Ogle's story of Mr. Van Buren's "gold spoons" and extravagance in the White House — all amounting to the remarkable sum of five or ten thousand dollars — while the *Democrat* showed up the terrors of Nick Biddle's United States bank — then exploded and beyond the power of mischief — the sinfulness of hard cider and coonskins nailed up on a log-cabin to dry; and the general weaknessess of "old granny Harrison." The Whigs had the best of the performance during the campaign. The September and October elections were a cyclone. The November elections finished the work.

Again, in 1844, the political legions of the county went forth to battle for the welfare of their country, and a repetition of the scenes of four years previous was enacted. Mass meetings, processions, the glory of banners without number prevailed, and a general political jubilee was held, which many now living will easily call to mind.[1]

[1] [illegible] the prevailing rivalry. The glee clubs, or some of them, were the most grotesque organizations, considered in a musical sense, but for making noise the Cortland Polk and Dallas glee club was simply huge. They could "Hurrah for Polk!" much more harmoniously than they could sing their songs. Sinclair was the foreman in the *Democrat* office, and a zealous Democrat in politics. He handled the pyramid of bells in the glee club, and fairly howl- [illegible] of diverting the Whigs along Main street, every hour or two he would thrust his head out of the office window and shout, "H-u-r-r-a-h f-o-r P-o-l-k!" until the sound would reach the ears of Conger, in his law office in the William Randall building, on the corner of Main and Court streets, grate harshly upon those of James C. Pomeroy, stir up the quiet 'Squire Adams and staid Hiram

In the year 1842 an act of Legislature made the counties of Cortland and Cayuga to comprise the Twenty-fifth Congressional District, which remained in force until the change which constituted the district of the counties of Cortland and Onondaga. In 1846 Cortland was placed in the Twenty-third Senatorial District, with Broome and Tioga counties. It now, in connection with Onondaga county, comprises the Twenty-fifth Senatorial District. By the constitution of 1846 Cortland county lost one Member of Assembly, having previously elected two. The Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace were also abolished, and the County Court, with one county judge, substituted.

Several changes were made in the town boundaries during this decade (1840 to 1850). An act was passed in May, 1845, erecting the towns of Lapeer and Harford from the southern half of Virgil.[1] In December, 1849, Taylor was erected from the eastern half of Solon; and in 1850 lot No. 20 in Virgil was annexed to Freetown. This was the last change of boundaries made in the county, with the exception of the formation of the town of Cuyler from Truxton in the fall of 1858, which may properly be noted here, and followed with the genealogy of all of the towns in the county, thus: —

Homer was formed in Onondaga county March 5th, 1794, and embraced the present town of that name and the present towns of Solon, Virgil, Taylor, Cincinnatus, Marathon, Freetown, Willet, Lapeer, Harford and Cortland.

Solon was formed from Homer March 9th, 1798, and embraced the present towns of Solon, Cincinnatus, Marathon, Freetown, Taylor and Willet.

Hopkins, usually found at Oren Stimpson's store, and so up to the Whig headquarters at the Cortland House, where the portly Danforth Merrick would utter an expletive in disgust at "that —— Polk machine in the *Democrat* office!" The *Whig*, unluckily, adopted the phrase editorially, and from thenceforward that "Polk machine" was in operation when Conger was within ear-shot. It was "Hurrah for Polk!" at five o'clock in the morning, at midnight, and nearly all the hours between, until the Whigs gave up in despair. The laugh was against them. Another incident of this canvass was the roorback forgery and its circulation by the Whigs; and still another, the printing of a private letter involving Joel B. Hibbard, who was inclined to the anti-slavery side, and the Abolitionists, of whom there were three or four hundred in the county, under the lead of John Thomas, on purpose to cast that vote for the benefit of the Democrats and adversely to Mr. Clay, whose position on the question of Texas annexation was not satisfactory to the Abolitionists. — H. G. Crouch's *Reminiscences of* [illegible].

[1] "After the tide of revolution had rolled away and the people were becoming comparatively happy, conflicting claims and unpleasant controversies were renewed, having a strong tendency to create bitter recriminations between inhabitants of adjoining States, and especially those of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York. The controversy pending the conflicting claims of the two latter States grew out of an antiquated and pretended right on the part of Massachusetts to a certain portion of land lying within the boundaries of New York. In 1786 the question at issue was finally settled by an amicable adjustment of the differences of opinion, through the united exertions of commissoners, duly appointed and clothed with the confederative power to arrange the matter in controversy, and thus silence the clamor which had for a long time tended to create unpleasant remarks as well as to weaken the bonds of fraternal fellowship. The commissioners granted to Massachusetts 6,144,000 acres of land, known as the Genesee country. This tract comprised all the land of the State west of a line beginning at the mouth of the great Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario, and running due south through the middle of Seneca lake to the north line of Pennsylvania, excepting one mile in width the whole length of Niagara river, which was ceded to New York. Another tract, afterward known as the 'Massachusetts ten townships,' embracing 230,400 acres, lying between the Owego and Chenango rivers, was also ceded without the least equivalent to Massachusetts, reserving to New York barely the right of sovereignty. The former was sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and the latter was purchased by John Brown & Co., for a fraction over $3,300. It will be observed that we have heretofore spoken of Virgil as township No. 24 of military lands. It should, however, be noted that the whole of the town of Virgil did not originally belong to the military grant. A strip of about one and a half miles wide running across its southern side from east to west was taken from the ten townships grant to Massachusetts." — GOODWIN.

This strip is now in the towns of Harford and Lapeer, with a small tract in Marathon, as will be seen on the map herein.

Cincinnatus was formed from Solon April 3d, 1804, and embraced the present towns of Cincinnatus, Marathon, Freetown and Willet.

Virgil was formed from Homer April 3d, 1804, and embraced the present towns of Virgil, Harford and Lapeer.

Preble was formed from Tully (Onondaga county) April 8th, 1808, embracing the present towns of Preble and Scott.

Truxton was formed from Fabius (Onondaga county) April 8th, 1808, and embraced the present towns of Truxton and Cuyler.

Scott was formed from Preble April 14th, 1815.

Marathon, Freetown and Willet were formed from Cincinnatus April 21st, 1818.

Cortlandville was formed from Homer April 11th, 1829, with its present boundaries, except that lot No. 10 and a portion of lot 9 were added to it in 1845–46.

Lapeer and Harford were taken from Virgil May 2d, 1845.

Taylor was formed from Solon December 5th, 1849.

Cuyler was formed from Truxton November 18th, 1858.

By the middle of the century Cortland county had taken her place in most particulars beside the older and larger divisions of the State; an exception should, perhaps, be noted regarding her manufacturing interests, which were still small. The farmers had brought their domains generally into a good state of cultivation, especially in the valleys and near to the business centers, while those living farther back upon the hills were rapidly clearing their lands of the remaining forests and stumps.

It was about this time that the dairying interest of the county began to receive that degree of attention from the farmers to which it was entitled; and from that date down to 1860, the product was largely increased and the quality so much improved that its reputation in the great markets was soon enhanced to within one or two counties of the highest in the State — a reputation that has steadily advanced during the succeeding years.

Meanwhile the inhabitants of the county were not at all backward in the matter of education. The Cortland Academy (in Homer) was at the height of its long career of prosperity; the Cortlandville Academy, incorporated in 1842, started out under the most favorable auspices upon a course of many years of usefulness and success; the Cincinnatus Academy was incorporated in 1855 and soon became a popular and successful institution; and churches and excellent district schools were rapidly multiplied on every hand.

But the greatest obstacle to material advancement was still the difficulty of reaching markets and of traveling beyond the boundaries of the county, except by methods that had begun to be looked upon as somewhat primitive. The plank road constructed between Cortland village and Syracuse in the years 1849–51 afforded a degree of relief, enabling passengers to take either of two lines of stages each way per day, which made the trip in about six hours, while freight was transported in heavier loads and in much shorter time than over the former turnpikes; the plank road was good in its way, but it was not what was needed. The old-fashioned coaches, drawn by four horses, guided by skillful drivers, who swung them up with a grand flourish at the doors of the famous hostelries — Van Anden's and Harrop's in Homer; the Eagle and the Cortland House in Cortland and scores of lesser establishments along the various turnpikes leading to Syracuse, Owego, Binghamton, Truxton and Cazenovia and other points — were often overloaded with passengers. Old residents still recount many amusing and interesting incidents connected

with the former coaching days; but, while that method of travel was undoubtedly picturesque in favorable seasons and conducive to health and pleasure, it was decidedly slow when compared with the locomotive. It was doomed. The turnpikes, and later the plank road from Cortland to Syracuse, were necessarily thronged with heavily-laden wagons during the greater portion of each year, transporting the products of the county to the canal and railroads, and returning with goods for the merchants and stock for the young manufacturing interests of the villages; but this mode of freighting scotched the wheels of progress and growth, and the leading minds of this county and vicinity felt the force of that fact and deplored it. The Tioughnioga, and the Susquehanna, as far as it applied to this section, had long been given up as permanent and useful channels of transportation; the waters of the Tioughnioga, once a broad and rapid stream, were gradually but surely diminishing, and the last freighting of much importance on its freshet tides was done as late as about 1840.

In this condition of affairs and for all these reasons, it is little wonder that one of the unfailing themes of discussion and the constant hope and dream of the inhabitants, in their semi-isolated situation, was a railroad. It had been discussed in all its bearings ever since the first charter was granted, by men who fully appreciated its importance and were ready and willing to contribute largely to its success, and by others all the way down in the scale of brain, energy and wealth to those who could not have bought a single spike and could scarcely summon the energy to drive one. Everybody wanted a railroad.

Syracuse was pushing forward under the impulse of her salt interests and canal and railroad connections, while farther north Oswego sat at the foot of the great lake system of the country, thriving upon her commercial marine. To the southward Binghamton, with a population of 10,000, contiguous to the opening coal fields of Pennsylvania, with the consequent extensive railroad connections, gave promise of being the bustling city of to-day. These were some of the outside business centers toward which Cortland stretched her burdened hands, but which could be reached only by the slow means of horse-power; her inhabitants saw the tide of commercial and manufacturing prosperity swelling around them in all directions, but were helpless — without a railroad.

Hence, the renewed agitation of the subject of a road from Syracuse to Binghamton, running through the central portion of this county, in 1848–49, found hundreds of earnest men ready to favor it to the utmost of their ability; among them were several of the original charter petitioners. Again the Legislature was petitioned and a charter obtained. Meetings were held in the towns of the county, and along the entire line, at which the proposed road was explained and its advantages advocated. Subscription books were opened, and, early in the year 1850, such progress was made in this direction that steps were taken for preliminary surveys. W. B. Gilbert, a thoroughly competent engineer, was engaged for the survey. But it must not be presumed that this line of road was to be finished without meeting with obstacles. Difficulties in the way of organizing the company, growing, to some extent, out of personal feeling, were encountered, and just as the work of construction was begun, the country began to feel the effects of one of those periodical financial revulsions to which it has on several occasions been subjected. Those persons who had money became wary about letting it leave their possession for even such a boon as a railroad; those who had little or none, saw the apparent neces-

sity of hoarding all they could get for future needs; many who had subscribed in good faith for stock in the road, found themselves unable to fulfill their obligations.

Yet, in spite of all this, and through the persevering efforts and the indomitable energy of those who were at the head of the enterprise, many of whom were residents of this county, with the liberal subscriptions of all classes throughout the counties traversed by the line, the work was finished in 1854.

A formal opening of the road occurred on the 18th and 19th of October, of that year. An excursion train of twenty-seven cars ran over the road from Syracuse to Binghamton and return, which was so loaded with enthusiastic passengers that many were compelled to stand. The gratification felt in this county over the auspicious event was exhibited in the ringing of bells, firing of cannon and display of banners at every station, while immense crowds congregated to witness the fruition of their long-deferred hopes.

The original plans of the projectors of this road included connections with the Syracuse and Oswego road to Lake Ontario, and, of course, direct connection with the Erie canal in Syracuse. The feasibility of making these connections was used as among the strongest arguments in favor of the construction of the road. But the company were unable to secure the coveted connection to Oswego, or even to run their tracks through to the canal for the rapid and economical transfer of freight to the great waterway. Another company was, therefore, organized under the general act to construct a broad gauge line to Oswego from Syracuse, on the east side of Onondaga lake and the Oswego river. But no satisfactory arrangement for this purpose could be made with the holders of the mortgage bonds of the existing road to Binghamton, and operations had to be suspended.

These untoward circumstances crippled the road and so restricted its operations and profits that in 1856 the bondholders were forced to foreclose and sell it. It was bought by J. M. Schermerhorn, then of Homer, and the company subsequently reorganized. The road was finished to the canal, and arrangements were perfected whereby the Erie railroad would accommodate the cars of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western road for the transportation of coal and freight, making the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York road (as it was renamed) the proper and most available channel for carrying their coal to the canal at Syracuse and to Oswego, Canada and the great West. This road passed into the hands of the great corporation, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, a double track was laid, and it is now one of the best equipped and most successful branches in the State

While the sale of this first railroad in this county under the mortgage was disastrous to the original stockholders, none of whom realized anything directly from their investments, it is doubtless true that not one of them failed to see in the near future that their money had thus been wisely expended. Every acre of land in the county was increased in value, while the annual benefits to farmers, tradesmen and manufacturers, after the road went into operation, could scarcely be over-estimated.

The construction of railroads in this county produced the common effect of building up some of the villages at the expense of others. It was about the period under consideration, or a little later, that Cortland began to show unmistakable indications of rivaling and outstripping her sister village on the north; though the almost phenomenal growth of the former place did not be-

gin until some years later. Preble and Little York, which were (especially the former) busy and thriving villages previous to the advent of the railroad, soon came to a stand-still, if they did not actually retrograde, in favor of Homer and Cortland; the same may be said of Virgil and Blodget's Mills, the former once thriving and growing village suffering materially from its permanent isolation from railroad communication. Marathon is situated far enough south of Cortland to prevent the loss of much of its business in that direction, while it has profited by the contiguity of Lisle (Broome county) on the south, and the hamlet of State Bridge and East Virgil on the north. It is, moreover, in the midst of an excellent grazing and agricultural district, and became a market of importance for butter and other products, so that its advancement has been continuous. Cincinnatus, Taylor, Willet, Scott, and most of the hamlets of the county have not directly gained in business importance through the construction of the railroad.

On the 2d day of September, 1853, the first and only death penalty ever inflicted in Cortland county was paid by Patrick O'Donohue, for the murder of Mrs. Jane Ann Kinney, of Truxton, on the 3d of September, 1852. The following account of the tragedy is condensed from Goodwin's history: —

"O'Donohue's daughter, Elizabeth, a girl of ten years, had been forbidden to visit the house of Mrs. Kinney. This command she disobeyed, and to escape the vengeance of her father's fiend-like temper, her two elder sisters secreted her in a ledge of jagged rocks, and then informed their father that she had been stolen. O'Donohue hastened from his work in the woods, accompanied by his wife and two or three children, all in a high state of excitement. He was falsely made to believe that the abductor was no other than the husband of Mrs. Kinney, whom he presumed to be his enemy.

"A search for the little girl was instituted by the father and his son, the former carrying a loaded gun. The search was given up about the middle of the forenoon; at about this time Mrs. Kinney and her daughter were on their way to the residence of a neighbor, and of necessity had to pass by the house of O'Donohue. Just as they drew near it they were met by the murderer, who angrily asked Mrs. Kinney if she had seen Elizabeth. Receiving a negative answer, he flew into a terrible passion, leveled his gun and fired at Mrs. Kinney; the contents of the weapon grazed her side, causing her to stagger forward. O'Donohue was now more enraged than before. Reversing his gun he struck the defenseless woman several blows, the second of which dislocated her neck. Not yet satisfied he flew at the daughter, who had fallen from fright, and plunged the bayonet of the gun into her body; although she seized the weapon, the demon wrenched it from her grasp and thrust it again and again into her body. The tragedy was discovered, soon after it was committed, by Charles McKnight. As he approached the spot his life was threatened by O'Donohue, but he gained a full view of the victims. He advised the murderer to go to the village and give himself up to the authorities, presuming him to be crazy. He told him that men suffering from a diseased mind were not always responsible for their acts; perhaps he would not be punished. The murderer seemed to accept the counsel, for he, with his wife and son, started toward the village, where he was afterward arrested. His indictment followed at the October term of the County Court, and he was tried at the following July Oyer and Terminer. Hon. Schuyler Crippen was the presiding judge, associated with John S. Dyer and Noah H. Osborne. R. Holland Duell, then district attorney, and General Nye, appeared in behalf of the people; Horatio Ballard and Daniel Gott, counsel. The prisoner was found guilty of murder in the first degree, on the 3d of August, 1853. O'Donohue was hung in the court-house on the date before mentioned."

We now approach the period in the history of Cortland county when the great political movement began which resulted in the formation of the Republican party in

the year 1855, and led thence rapidly down to the beginning of a four years' war, which drenched the country in the blood of her own sons — a war born of the insatiate purpose of a section of the Republic to perpetuate in a civilized country an uncivilized and uncivilizing institution, the keystone of which was, property in the bodies and souls of men, women and children. The organization of the new party in this county was effected pursuant to the following call: —

"REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION. Those electors of the County of Cortland who are opposed to the extension of slavery over the Territories of the United States, and to the reception into the Union or annexation of States, Territories or Countries, where slavery already exists and are in favor of forming a new party for the defense of freedom against the encroachments of the slave power, are requested to meet in Convention at the Court House in Cortland Village, on Wednesday, the 15th day of August, at one o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of choosing delegates to the State Republican Convention at Syracuse, on the 26th day of September next, and for transacting such other business as may be necessary. Dated Cortlandville, July 20th, 1855.

"C. Green, Samuel Babcock, Chas. H. Wheadon, J. M. Schermerhorn, Jos. R. Dixon, Joseph Conger, G. W. Phillips, Geo. W. Samson, E. F. Thomas, H. F. Lyman, S. Brewer, F. Goodyear, Michael Spencer, Wm. R. Stone, Wm. Elder, L. D. Davis, Josiah Stone, W. H. Harrington, N. Jones, jr., Samuel Plumb, Geo. P. Dann, Andrew Hutchings, Lora Gross, O. H. Smith, John J. Adams, E. Mudge, C. W. Copeland, Israel Palmer, J. B. Gates, H. T. Townley, A. Mudge, Edwin Norton, R. P. Babcock, A. W. Clark, A. D. C. Barber, Joseph Atwater, A. Salisbury, Isaac W. Brown, Manly Hobart, Newell Jones, Jabez Briggs, Geo. K. Stiles, G. N. Woodward, H. Bowen, H. A. Jarvis, J. W. Strowbridge, Horace Buel, James Freeman, L. H. Utley, M. Woodruff, Thos. G. Copeland, A. G. Tuttle, R. Lambert, E. W. Edgcomb, Z. B. Mason, R. Palmer, James T. Hawley, William McGraw, Deloss C. McGraw, T. Boland, Judah Cowles, L. G. Calkins, Russel Cowles, A. Caldwell, Wm. C. Angel, M. R. Smith, Nelson L. Brooks, Nathan Bouton, N. Haight, Theodore Hooker, John Hillsinger, S. Conger, F. M. Buell, John R. Earl, J. T. Bostwick, T. G. Jones, Edwin Darby, S. Lucas, M. G. Lee, Israel Gee, Edward Gee, Arthur Holmes, D. Corey, Wm. W. Brown, L. W. Holmes, H. D. Corey, Miner Webster, Emory Potter, Elijah Jipson, Shuball Carver, Jacob Hutchings, J. H. Parker, G. L. Oakley, G. W. Crocker, Eben. Perkins, Jesse Rogers, Wm. Squires, Nathaniel Bouton, C. S. Hyatt, E. F. Phillips, J. Taggart, David Scofield, Moses Van Buren, J. L. Gillett, H. Orcutt, J. Van Orsdale."

This call was first published on the 29th of July, 1855. The convention was held and delegates appointed to attend the State Republican convention in Syracuse, on the 26th of September. The new party started out under what appeared favorable prospects as far as related to this county. The *Whig*, of Homer, changed its name to the *Republican*, which title it has since retained. H. G. Crouch, who had for several years published an excellent Democratic organ in Cortland, left the *Democrat*, which passed into the hands of Edwin F. Gould and soon became the *Cortland American*, the organ of the Know-Nothing party. The new Republican party received the expected ridicule and predictions of disaster from the organs of the opposite faction; but it was destined for a great future, which has passed into history. The resolutions of the new organization, passed at the first county convention, were as follows: —

"*Whereas*, The system of human bondage is radically antagonistic to the principles of religion and the dictates of morality — a curse to any country that cherishes or sustains it; and especially opposed to the genius of our free institutions; and at war with their welfare and perpetuity.

"And, *whereas*, The South, in conjunction with dough-face abettors, for years has evinced a determination by all means, and at all hazards, to strengthen and extend this system, which design has been strikingly manifested in the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law — in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and more recently in

tyrannizing by a ruffian mob over the citizens of Kansas — suppressing the freedom of speech — corrupting the ballot box — sporting with their lives — and trampling under foot their property; therefore —

"*Resolved*, That we will consent to no further compromise with slavery, that we demand the immediate and unconditional repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law — that we will resist to the last extremity the admission into the Union of another Slave State, and the spread of slavery over another foot of American soil.

"*Resolved*, That the freemen of the north, whether Whigs, Democrats, Know Nothings, Know Somethings, or Abolitionists, are now called upon for the vindication of their insulted manhood as well as the defense of their country's freedom, to break loose from party ties, to lay aside old political predilections, and unite in one common cause — resistance to the encroachments of the Slave Power.

"*Resolved*, That slavery is sectional — but that Freedom is national; and that those who rally for its defense are not sectionalists or disunionists; but guard the corner stone upon which are pillared the prosperity and very existence of our whole country.

"*Resolved*, That while we are laboring to restrain and banish from our land the system of physical bondage, we would not be unmindful of that vile and degrading servitude to the intoxicating cup that oppresses so many thousands; but we bid God speed to every effort calculated to deliver and restore them, and especially to those at the ballot-box; and that we have full confidence in our present Prohibitory Liquor Law."

The local political field continued to be occupied by quite active spirits until the memorable campaign of 1859–60, when Abraham Lincoln was made president of the United States, taking upon himself one of the greatest burdens ever borne by man. Cortland was then in the 23d Senatorial District, with Madison and Chenango; P. H. McGraw was elected Senator. R. Holland Duell was elected to Congress, Geo. B. Jones, district attorney, and J. A. McVean Member of Assembly, and the Republican ticket generally triumphed. The contest between A. P. Smith and Hiram Crandall for county judge was especially spirited, daily editions of both Republican and Democratic organs being issued in support of the respective candidates, who were, as usual in such cases, made to appear by the opposite organs as most decidedly unfit for the office. Mr. Crandall was elected. The Civil War was ushered in with the attack on Fort Sumter on the 9th day of April, 1861, the history of which, as it relates to this county, is given in another chapter.

It had for several years, prior to 1860, been apparent to the Supervisors of the county that something must be done to provide better jail accommodations. The old jail under the court-house had been frequently enlarged and repaired, and in 1859 the Supervisors authorized Abram Mudge to associate himself with another competent person to estimate the cost and propose plans for a new jail suitable for the county and report at the meeting of 1860. In November, 1860, the board authorized the raising of $8,000 for the purpose of building a jail substantially on the plans suggested by Mr. Mudge, who, with Wm. E. Tallman, was made the building committee. The present excellent jail was the result of this action.[1]

[1] It was in the Board of Supervisors of 1865 that Erving Taintor, the "Bard of Harford," offered a resolution providing, in substance, for application to the Legislature for such alteration of the laws as would allow the dog tax to be applied to the school fund. Appended to the resolution in the old record book appears the following poetical argument in favor of the resolution: —

Now, in the Scriptures it is said
You shall not take the children's bread
And give it to the dogs;
Neither shall men, or boys, or girls,
Or lovely women take their pearls
And cast them to the hogs.

But e'er intent on doing good,
Give hogs and dogs their proper food,
And knowledge to the fools;



A. L. CHAMBERLAIN

Between the years 1865 and 1870 the people of the county, and especially of Cortlandville, became very enthusiastic over the subject of further railroad construction, which would give them better connections with other portions of the State. The village of Cortland had fully entered upon the period of growth which has since given it justly earned fame from Lake Erie to the Hudson river; manufacturing interests were springing up or being earnestly discussed in Cortland, Homer, Marathon, McGrawville and other localities; the farming communities were prosperous, the dairying interest having shown a wonderful increase since 1860 and become an important source of revenue; cheese factories had been established in all parts of the county, and the quality of their product, with that of the county butter, ranked second to those of only one or two other counties in the State. This state of affairs found the towns through which it was proposed to run new railroad lines ready to lend them their aid through the liberal issue of bonds, or in other ways.

In 1869 the Ithaca and Cortland Railroad Company was formed, for the construction of a line terminating at these two villages. In aid of this project the town of Cortland voted to bond itself for $100,000. The road was completed and opened, and finally extended to Elmira, making a valuable connecting link with the D., L. & W., and eventually proving of much benefit to the county at large.

Immediately following the agitation of this railroad enterprise, the Auburn branch of the great Midland line, which might or might not come through Cortland, became a topic of earnest and widespread discussion. Cortlandville and other towns were willing to bond themselves in large amounts to attract the road in this direction. When it subsequently appeared improbable that this object could be accomplished, and in response to the generally existing feeling in the county in favor of railroad building to almost any point, the Utica, Chenango and Cortland Railroad Company was formed; prominent men became interested in this organization, one of the foremost of whom and one whose interests would be largely subserved by the proposed road, being Hon. Perrin H. McGraw, of McGrawville. The charter of the company is dated April 9, 1870. Preliminary surveys had been made under direction of Fred. E. Knight, of Cortland village, as chief engineer, and after the company was fully organized the work of construction was begun. In aid of this road the town of Cortlandville voted to bond for $150,000; Solon for $44,000; Cincinnatus for $45,500; Taylor for $20,000; Mr. McGraw was made president of the company and the work of grading was rapidly pushed forward for a time. But difficulties of a serious character arose, into the details of which we need not enter, and the work was suspended after about eighteen miles were graded, bridges and culverts built and more than $300,000 expended. The suspension was due chiefly to trouble with contractors, underestimates of cost, the later failure of negotiations for consolidation with the Midland Company and the financial panic of 1873–74. Almost the whole sum, for which the towns named issued

So, 'tis the fashion now to raise
By various means and various ways,
Money for our schools.

Now, if a thieving dog you keep,
Or one that never killed a sheep,
Or dog of any kind,
Let him be taxed to raise a store
Of several hundreds, if no more,
To cultivate the mind.

Then, every dog of every breed
Will teach the children how to read,
Or help their education;
And thus a useless race be made,
That never learned a trade,
To benefit the nation.

their bonds, has been expended on this line. Whether all of the towns will finally pay these bonds entire, is a question for the future to decide; although some of them will do so, the town of Cortlandville among the number; her bonds having been refunded at five per cent. interest.

The line of this road passed through McGrawville, Solon, down the valley of the Gee brook, Taylor to the Otselic valley to an intersection with what was known as the De Ruyter branch of the Midland; it is generally conceded to be a natural and desirable route for a railroad. Since the suspension of work on the line various plans have been suggested and discussed and efforts made to finish the road, but as yet (1884) nothing has been accomplished. It is believed, however, by those competent to judge, that it will be put in operation at a not distant day. The first of Board of Directors were David R. Pierce, of Otselic; Addison Taylor and John S. Blackman, of Cincinnatus; Calvin L. Hathaway, of Solon; P. H. McGraw, O. S. Kinney, H. P. Goodrich, Allen B. Smith, Chauncey Keator, Charles C. Taylor and James S. Squires. The board met at the Messenger House in Cortland, March 14th, 1870, and elected P. H. McGraw, president; B. F. Tillinghast, vice-president; J. S. Squires, treasurer; Frank Place, secretary.

The branch of the Midland Railroad did finally come through Cortland county, and was subsequently leased by the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira road and is now operated by it. These lines that are now in successful operation give ample railroad connections east, west, north and south, and have done much to aid in the development of the resources of the county. This process of development and the growth of the county in various respects during the past twenty years will be better understood by reference to a few statistics from the census reports, with which and the civil list this chapter will be closed: —

The aggregate population of Cortland county in 1855 was 24,575. In 1880 it had increased to 25,825. Cortland village had a population in 1855 of 2,117, which increased to 4,050, in 1880. Homer village increased her population during the same period from 1,625 to 2,331; and Marathon from 500 to 1,006. At the former date the acreage of improved land was 194,736, against 218,736 in 1875. In 1855 the amount of butter made in the county was 2,379,257 pounds, against 2,995,101 twenty years later; while the cheese production increased in the same period in a similar ratio. In manufactures the growth, especially during the past ten or twelve years, has been even more marked. That this advancement will continue in the future there is little doubt.

CORTLAND COUNTY CIVIL LIST.

County Judges.[1]—John Keep, appointed April 3d, 1810; William Mallory, January 31st, 1823; Joseph Reynolds, March 9th, 1833; Henry Stephens, May 17th, 1838; Daniel Hawks, elected June, 1847; Lewis Kingsley, November 7th, 1851; R. Holland Duell, November 6th, 1855; Stephen Brewer, November 14th, 1859; Hiram Crandall, November, 1859; Abram P. Smith, November, 1867; S. S. Knox, November, 1882.

County Clerks.[2]—John Ballard, appointed April 8th, 1808; Reuben Washburn, April 3d, 1810; John Ballard, March 4th, 1811; Mead Merrill, April 2d, 1813; William Mallory, March 2d, 1815; Joshua Ballard, July 7th, 1819; Matthias Cook, February 14th, 1821; Samuel Hotchkiss, elected 1822; Orin Stimpson, 1834; Gideon C. Bab-

[1] Previous to the adoption of the Constitution of 1846 this office was filled by the "Council of Appointment" at Albany.

[2] This office was made elective by the Constitution of 1821.

cock, 1840; Samuel Hotchkiss, jr., 1843; Rufus A. Reed, 1849; Allis W. Ogden, 1858; De Witt C. McGraw, 1861; Frank Place, 1867; W. S. Maycumber, 1876; Howard J. Harrington, 1879; R. W. Bourne, 1882.

District Attorneys. — Augustus Donnelly, 1819; Edward C. Reed, 1827; William H. Shankland, 1836; Horatio Ballard, 1844; Augustus S. Ballard, 1847; R. Holland Duell, 1850; Edward C. Reed, appointed 1856; Abram P. Smith, elected 1856; Geo. B. Jones, 1859; Alvah D. Waters, 1865; Riley Champlin, 1870; Lewis Bouton, November, 1870; Benjamin T. Wright, 1873; Byron A. Benedict, 1876; Irving H. Palmer, 1882.

Sheriffs.[1] — Asahel Minor, April 8th, 1808; Wm. Mallory, appointed June 9th, 1808; Joshua Ballard, April 3d, 1810; Billy Trowbridge, March 25th, 1814; Wm. Stewart, March 2d, 1815; Noah R. Smith, February 13th, 1819; Moses Hopkins, February 12th, 1821; David Coye, elected 1822; Adin Webb, 1828; Wm. Andrews, 1831; Gilmore Kinney, 1834; E. W. Edgcomb, 1837; Alanson Carley, 1840; Christian Etz, 1843; George Ross, 1846; J. C. Pomeroy, 1849; Frederick Ives, 1852; John S. Samson, 1855; Silas Baldwin, 1858; Frederick Ives, 1861; N. H. Haynes, 1864; Isaac W. Brown, 1867; John D. Benton, 1870; N. H. Haynes, 1873; Harlow G. Borthwick, 1876; Gerret S. Van Hoesen, 1879; H. G. Borthwick, 1882.

Treasurers.[2] — Justin M. Pierce, 1848; Edwin F. Gould, 1851; Isaac M. Seaman, 1854; Horace L. Green, 1857; Lora Gross, 1860; Daniel H. Burr, 1863; George W. Webster, 1866; John S. Cornue, 1869; A. S. Waters, 1872; Robert Bushby, 1875; the present incumbent.

Surrogates.[1] — John McWhorter, appointed April 8th, 1808; Mead Merrill, 1810; Luther F. Stevens, 1811; Adin Webb, 1816; Jabez B. Phelps, 1823; Chas. W. Lynde, 1828; Townsend Ross, 1832; Anthony Freer, 1836; Adin Webb, 1840; Anthony Freer, 1844.

Members of Assembly. — Ephraim Fish, 1810; Billy Trowbridge, 1811; Wm. Mallory, 1814; S. G. Hathaway, 1815; Joseph Reynolds, 1816; John Miller, 1817; S. G. Hathaway, 1818; Joseph Reynolds, 1819; John Miller, 1820; John Osborn, 1821; Daniel Sherwood, 1822; John Gillett, 1823; Matthias Cook and Wm. Barto, jr., 1824; Josiah Hart and J. Chatterton, 1825; John Lynde and Augustus A. Donnelly, 1826; Nathan Dayton and Cephas Comstock, 1827; Nathan Dayton and John L. Boyd, 1828; Gideon Curtis and Alanson Carley, 1829; Henry Stephens and Chauncey Keep, 1830; Fredus Howard and Chas. Richardson, 1831; Andrew Dickson and J. L. Woods, 1832; David Mathews and Enos S. Halbert, 1833; Oliver Kingman and S. Bogardus, 1834; Barak Niles and Aaron Brown, 1835; Chauncey Keep and Cephas Comstock, 1836; Josiah Hine and John Thomas, 1837; John Osgood and David Mathews, 1838; G. S. Green and George Isaacs, 1839; Jabez B. Phelps and Wm. Barnes, 1840; Nathan Heaton and Lovel G. Mickels, 1841; Orin Stimpson and Jesse Ives, 1842; H. McGraw and George N. Niles, 1843; J. Kingman, jr., and Platt F. Grow, 1844; John Pierce, 2d, and Geo. J. J. Barber, 1845; Amos Graves and John Miller, 1846; Timothy Green, 1847; James Comstock, 1848; Ira Skeel, 1849; Lewis Kingsley, 1850; Alvan Kellogg, 1851; Geo. W. Bradford, 1852; Ashbel Patterson,

[1] This office was made elective in 1821.

[2] In all of the civil lists available this office is dated from 1848. Obadiah Boies was treasurer of this county from its organization and held the office until 1822, when he was succeeded by Edmond Mallory, who was followed in 1825 by William Mallory.

[1] After the adoption of the Constitution of 1846 this office has been merged with that of county judge.

1853; John H. Knapp, 1854; George J. Kingman, 1855; Joseph Atwater, 1856; Nathan Bouton, 1857; Arthur Holmes, 1858; John A. McVean, 1860; Loammi Kinney, 1861; Thomas Barry, 1862; Henry B. Van Hoesen, 1863; B. F. Tillinghast, 1864; Dann C. Squires, 1865; Stephen Patrick, 1866; Horatio Ballard, 1867; Raymond P. Babcock, 1868; Hiram Whitmarsh, 1869; Charles Foster, 1870; Henry S. Randall, 1871; Dann C. Squires, 1872; Geo. W. Phillips, 1873; Geo. W. Phillips, 1874; Daniel E. Whitmore, 1875; Judson C. Nelson, 1876; Deloss McGraw, 1877; Orris U. Kellogg, 1878; Geo. H. Arnold, 1879; Samuel A. Childs, 1880; Alburtis A. Carley, 1881; Alburtis A. Carley, 1882.

Members of Congress from Cortland County.— John Miller, 1824; Edward C. Reed, 1830; S. G. Hathaway, 1832; Joseph Reynolds, 1834; Lewis Riggs, 1840; Harmon S. Conger, 1846; R. Holland Duell, 1858, 1871 and 1873.

State Senators from Cortland County. — William Mallory, 1818; S. G. Hathaway, 1822; Chas. W. Lynde, 1830; Wm. Bartlit, 1841; Geo. W. Bradford, 1853, 1855; Perrin H. McGraw, 1860.

Secretaries of State from Cortland County. — Henry S. Randall, 1851; Horatio Ballard, 1861.

CHAPTER X.

MILITARY HISTORY. THE 76TH REGIMENT.

Early Organizations — Military Spirit in Early Days — "General Training" Days — Military Dignitaries in the Old Militia — Cortland County in the War of the Rebellion — The News from Bull Run — Its Effects at the North — The County Aroused — An Important Meeting — Suggestions for the Organization of a Regiment — Meetings Held Throughout the County — Recruiting — The 76th Regiment Organized — Camp Established on the Fair Grounds — The Green-McNett Trouble — Departure of the Regiment — Reorganization — Line and Staff Officers — Off for New York — Ordered to Washington — Camp Life at Meridian Hill — Ordered to Fredericksburg — Colonel Wainwright Assigned to the Command of the Regiment — The First Battle — Examples of Heroism — The Second Bull Run — South Mountain and the Conflict — At Fredericksburg — The Bloody Field of Gettysburg — An Execution — In the Wilderness — At Spottsylvania — In Petersburg — "Expended in the Service" — Home.

ALTHOUGH Cortland county is one of the smallest in the State, she has every reason to be proud of her military record. Many of the early residents, or their immediate relatives, took part in the war of 1812, and it is stated that sixteen soldiers of the Revolution drew lots and located in this county. The sad story told by many hundreds of graves, marked and unmarked, reveals what a host went out from here to fight for the preservation of the Union in the last terrible conflict.

The first military organization directly affecting the territory embraced within the county, dates back to 1796. In March, 1794, after the erection of Onondaga county from Herkimer, various appointments were made for the new county, particularly for the battalions of Major John L. Hardenburgh, Moses Dewitt and Asa Danforth, the latter of Onondaga county. In 1796 his battalion was made a regiment, its material to come from the townships of Hannibal, Lysander, Cicero, Manlius, Pompey, Fabius, Solon, Cincinnatus, Tully, Virgil, Camillus, Sempronius, Locke, Dryden, and the Onondaga Reservation. Mr. Danforth was made Lieutenant-Colonel commandant.

In those days the military spirit was more active than at the present time. The war of



EBENEZER MUDGE.

the Revolution had terminated but a few years before, and the Federal constitution had recently gone into effect. The new government was looked upon as to a certain extent experimental, doubts being felt of its permanency. Foreign complications were threatening the peace, while the borders were still menaced by the Indians. Therefore the wisdom of keeing up efficient military organizations in every county was generally acknowledged. Military honors and office implied much more distinction than in later years, and were sought with corresponding avidity. Seekers after political preferment were prompt to join the military ranks as a step thereto, while the wearing of a uniform and the pleasure and excitement of "training days" attracted the masses of those liable to military duty. Wherever they were held, thousands flocked to the scene, filling the adjacent highways, perching on the fences and climbing trees. The farmers came in with barrels of new cider in their wagons, which fluid was supplemented by the popular golden ginger bread, and general hilarity ensued on all such occasions.

The old militia organization continued in this State until the year 1862, when it gave way to the "National Guard of the State of New York," and this was, in turn, swallowed up by the organization of the vast northern armies for the suppression of rebellion. Going back to the year 1818 (and probably even earlier), we find indications of an active martial spirit in Cortland county. At that time it appears that the Thirty-sixth Brigade embraced the county, of which Martin Keep was brigadier-general, Enos Stimson, brigade-major and inspector, and Augustus Donnelly, aid-de-camp. The latter officer was appointed on the 1st of June of that year, under brigade order, dated at headquarters in Homer. The same order appointed Lieut. S. G. Hathaway, Capt. Samuel Bull, Capt. John J. Adams, Capt. —— Hemenway and Lieut. Chauncey Keep, a court martial. Another brigade order of that year commanded all non-commissioned officers and musicians to meet September 1st at 9 o'clock, at the public square, Homer, for military exercise. "Col. Elijah Wheeler will issue similar orders to his regiment of artillery and riflemen." The 58th Regiment, under command of Col. Martin Phelps, was ordered to parade on the 15th of September, on the public square at Homer; and the 4th Regiment, Col. Wheeler, on the 16th of September, in Solon.

A brigade order of August, 1819, was signed by Martin Phelps as brigadier-general, and appointed Andrew Dickson, president, Capts. Washington Parker, Wm. H. Warner, and Solomon Baker, jr., and Adjutant Azariel Blanchard, a court martial. In that year the regiments of Cols. Dickson, Hathaway and Reynolds were ordered to parade. In 1820 S. G. Hathaway became commander of the 36th Brigade. In 1833 we find notice published by Col. Judah Pierce, jr., commanding the 67th Regiment, of a court martial to be held in Truxton in May of that year. In 1853 this county was embraced in the 52d Regiment, commanded by Col. O. M. Welch, which, with the 51st Regiment of Onondaga county, formed the 24th Brigade. A four days encampment of the brigade was held in Syracuse, in August of that year.

But we need not follow through the many succeeding years the almost innumerable changes and promotions that occurred in the officers of the old militia organization of the county; suffice it to say that the military spirit of those days, coupled, as it often was, with political distinction, developed many officers who would undoubtedly have proven their heroism and bravery on a hard fought field, if such had been their destiny; but, happily, they lived through an era of peace, closely following upon the bloody

heels of war. The annual reviews of the several regiments of the county were for many years held either in Homer, Virgil, Cincinnatus or Solon; in later years some of the "trainings" were held in Cortland village, in the fields then vacant south of Tompkins and west of South Main street. In the *Reminiscences* published a few years since by Hon. Horatio Ballard, he gave the following account of military affairs hereabouts in early times, which will recall vivid recollections of their martial experience in the minds of the few who are left of the elder organizations: —

"The regiment embracing the undivided town of Homer, Preble and Scott was a noble one. It was composed of a company of cavalry, grenadiers, artillery, rifle and infantry. Military pride was then cultivated and upheld throughout the ranks of society. I hope there are some yet living who will remember the splendid 'troop of cavalry' as it paraded on the 'green' in Homer, commanded by Joshua Ballard, and officered by the cherished names of David Coye, Isaac Rindge, Stephen Knapp, Henry De Voe, and others, with Roswell Lee as trumpeter, and 'Hi.' Herrick as color-bearer; or the brilliant company of grenadiers, dressed in beautiful uniforms and commanded by Hezekiah Roberts, with Jeremiah Day on the fife, and Jerry Selkreg on the drum, as his chief musicians; or the heavy artillery, with its brass ordnance, marching with stately tread through the streets of Homer, and commanded by Benajah Tubbs; or the rifle company, in uniform of green tunics and feathers in caps, moving on the double-quick, and commanded by John Etz.

"O, who that shares [illegible] shall forget
The emotions of that spirit-rousing time,"

when the old-fashioned 'general training day' occurred in the village of Homer, and General Daniel Miller,[1] in full military dress, including a tall, straight yellow plume and chapeau and buff pants, bestriding his caparisoned horse, with erect and stately mein and commanding look, took his station with his staff to receive the marching salute of the regiment. A picket guard had to be stationed to withstand the press of the multitude.

"It was a marked era in the history of the old brigade when Roswell Randall became its commandant. He was a model military officer, possessed of faultless taste in the matters of military dress, and was fond of the splendors of military parades. The brigade staff was composed of Enos Stimson, brigade inspector; J. De Puy Freer, judge advocate; John D. Matthews, surgeon; Henry S. Randall, aid; Hiram C. McKay, quartermaster, and George Barber, paymaster. On the resignation of Major Stimson, the writer of this number was appointed by the governor as brigade inspector.

"In the uniform of the general and staff, and the trappings of the horses, the military regulations were fully carried out. Nothing was wanting. The county was laid under contribution for the best horses for annual parades. These were palmy days in the military annals of the county.

"General Randall possessed manly beauty and a graceful horsemanship, combined with a thorough knowledge of military evolutions. He was ambitious to sustain the organization of the militia, and to have the reviews command not only the respect but the admiration of the people. His words and his example were felt throughout the military ranks of the county, and were effectual in improving discipline and exciting admiration for the parades and maneuvers of the regiments.

"This was the period when Eleazer May was the colonel of the regiment which met at Homer; William Squires, colonel of the regiment which met at Virgil; Eli C. Dickinson, colonel of the regiment which met at Cincinnatus; and Judah Pierce, colonel of the battalion which met at Truxton.

"The general and staff were accustomed to ride in carriages until within a short distance of the hotel quarters, and then to mount the led horses and ride into town under the animating blasts of the bugle, and with quickened pace,

[1] General Miller, whose name has often occurred in these pages, was for a time on the Niagara frontier in the War of 1812. It is said of him that he gained his knowledge of how to handle men by military tactics through practice with kernels of corn, before he left his home; but he acknowledged after his return, that when it came to commanding men in the field, he found a vast difference, which made it difficult to apply his hard-earned knowledge.

forming in platoon before the hotel, when every rider would deliver at command a pistol shot. This was a sort of prelude for the awakening scenes of the day. After the review was a stately march of the regiment from the parade ground along the streets of the town, escorting the general and staff, with banners flying, and the multitude electrified with scores of 'ear-piercing fifes,' and scores of 'spirit-stirring drums,' emphasized with the roar of cannon. Then came the halt and the official dismissal, and thus 'general training day' was closed.

"The only surviving regimental commandant of that period is Colonel William Squires, now (1878) a resident of Marathon. In the vigor of his years he had a passion for the military. He soon rose to the command of a regiment, and then it was that he began to display that remarkable magnetic power over a corps of men in the field which gave him renown. He would maneuver a regiment so that they would go through successive evolutions with the regularity of the pieces in a game of chess. It was a noble military spectacle, and gave delight to the encircling field of beholders. But the general and most of his staff, and the field officers of the several regiments, have been dismissed from duty in life's campaign."

CORTLAND COUNTY IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

When the startling news of the defeat of the northern army at Bull Run in 1861 came flashing from the telegraph, the people from among whom had marched that army—a host great in numbers and believed to be invincible against the boasting enemies of the government—could scarcely believe the appalling intelligence. The great army beaten by a lot of rioters! Flying in defeat to the defenses of Washington! It could not be true. The sequel is well known history. The North, for a moment paralyzed, quickly recovered, and united in one grand military effort to put down the unholy attempt to sever the Union and perpetuate an institution founded and fostered in human oppression and wrong. One of the minor features, yet one which was momentous in its consequences, of this great effort, was the meeting of a few earnest men in a law office in Cortland village, to consider what could be done here towards aiding the government in its wrestle with the rebels. At this meeting there was much diversity of opinion. One full company, that of Captain Clark, had already left the county in the 23d Regiment N. Y. V., many had gone in the old 12th Regiment and other organizations, and it was feared by some that another company could not be organized in the county, and if it could that it would not be wise to thus drain the community of its young and able-bodied men. Others held different views. In attendance at the meeting was Nelson W. Green, a man of sanguine, nervous temperament, who had been partially educated at West Point, whence he was discharged on account of a wound. It was Mr. Green who advanced and supported the suggestion that an entire regiment could be easily raised in Cortland county. After proper consideration it was decided to make the attempt, and Colonel Green was accordingly authorized by the State to proceed with the work. A circular was prepared setting forth the object in view, and giving instructions to recruits as to what course to pursue, and signed by about thirty of the leading citizens of Cortland village; these were distributed throughout the county. Meetings were held in every town, and enlistments went forward so rapidly that an order was soon obtained for the formation of a military camp at Cortland. The grounds of the County Agricultural Society were leased for this purpose, and on the 26th of September, 1861, the enlisted men were assembled in camp. Recruiting continued in every school district, and the organization of the regiment under the inspiring number, Seventy-Six, seemed to be near at

Oyer and Terminer to be held in January following, to answer an indictment to be found against him for assault with intent to kill."[1]

Orders were received on the 16th of December to proceed to Albany and on the 18th the regiment left home and friends for the dangers and hardships of the battle-field. They arrived at Albany on the evening of the same day and were placed in barracks, where many suffered severely from the cold.

A court of inquiry had been ordered in Colonel Green's case and, after an investigation of three days, he was placed in command of the regiment by the governor, on the 28th.

While the 76th had been recruiting in Cortland county, similar work had been in progress in Otsego county, resulting, early in January, in the departure for Albany from Cherry Valley of six companies (consolidated into five) of the 39th regiment of National Guard, under command of Col. John D. Shaul, who had tendered the services of his regiment to the government. These five companies were captained by A. L. Swan, J. E. Cook, J. W. Young, E. N. Hanson and N. Bowdish. The Cortland branch of the 76th numbered about 800 men; the governor wisely concluding that it would not be politic to send Col. Green and Capt. McNett to the front in the same regiment, transferred the latter and his company to the 93d New York, then stationed at Albany. At the same time, Capt. J. V. White, who had joined the 76th with about forty-five men, was transferred by his request to the 3d New York Artillery. The remaining companies of the 76th were consolidated into seven — A, B, C, D, E, F, and G. Three companies were then transferred from the Otsego regiment to the 76th, Captain Swan's company becoming Co. H; Captain Cook's Co. I, and Captain Young's Co. K. Each of these companies, so far as possible, retained its own officers. The field and staff officers were appointed as follows: —

Colonel—N. W. Green, of Cortland.

Lieutenant-Colonel — John D. Shaul, of Springfield.

Major—Charles E. Livingston, of New York city.

Surgeon—J. C. Nelson, of Truxton.

Assistant-Surgeon—Geo. W. Metcalfe, of Otsego county.

Chaplain—H. Stone Richardson, of New York Mills.

Adjutant—Heman F. Robinson, of Cortland.

Quartermaster—A. P. Smith, of Cortland.

Quartermaster-Sergeant—Albert J. Jarvis, of Cortland.

Commissary-Sergeant—William Storrs, of Allegany.

The line officers of the regiment were as follows: —

Company A—Captain, Andrew J. Grover; First Lieutenant, Charles H. George; Second Lieutenant, H. W. Pierce.

Company B—Captain, Oscar C. Fox; First Lieutenant, C. D. Crandall; Second Lieutenant, W. Stuart Walcott.

Company C—Captain, Gilman J. Crittenden; First Lieutenant, E. R. Weaver; Second Lieutenant, M. P. Marsh.

Company D—Captain, Charles L. Watrous; First Lieutenant, E. D. Van Slyck; Second Lieutenant, —— ———.

Company E—Captain, Wm. H. Powell; First Lieutenant, John H. Ballard; Second Lieutenant, S. M. Powell.

Company F—Captain, John F. Barnard; First Lieutenant, E. A. Mead; Second Lieutenant, Wm. W. Green.

Company G—Captain, Wm. Langdon.

[1] Colonel Green was subsequently tried, the jury failed

First Lieutenant, Aaron Sager; Second Lieutenant, James L. Goddard.

Company H—Captain, Amos L. Swan; First Lieutenant, M. B. Cleveland; Second Lieutenant, Robert Story.

Company I—Captain, John E. Cook; First Lieutenant, H. A. Blodgett; Second Lieutenant, Richard Williams.

Company K—Captain, John W. Young; First Lieutenant, C. A. Watkins; Second Lieutenant, C. M. Gaylord.

On the 16th day of January the 76th received orders to march to New York on the following day. On the 17th they marched to the capitol, where a beautiful stand of colors was presented to the regiment by S. R. Campbell, esq., in behalf of his mother, Mrs. Samuel Campbell, of New York Mills. Mr. Samuel Campbell had been a sort of a godfather to the regiment, as he had presented the colonel and chaplain each with a fine black steed, fully equipped, and in many other ways had shown his devotion and liberality. The beautiful banner was accepted by Colonel Green in an appropriate speech.

After these ceremonies the regiment embarked for New York where they arrived the following day at noon. They went into quarters at the City Hall Park Barracks, where they remained until January 21st, when the regiment was transferred to Riker's Island, about ten miles up East river. Leaving New York, the regiment reached Philadelphia on the 30th, and on the afternoon of the 31st was in Baltimore. At midnight the following night they reached Washington, going into camp at Meridian Hill. Here occurred the first death in the regiment, that of William B. Potter, a private in Company A. He died on the 19th of February, 1862. His body was sent home to his friends in the town of Taylor.

On the 24th day of February the 76th, which was not yet assigned to a brigade, was moved from Meridian Hill to occupy Forts De Russey, Massachusetts, Totten and Slemmer. About this time it was decided by the authorities that the regiment was not in fit condition to take the field, on account of internal dissensions which had arisen. Most of the officers had united in preferring charges against Col. Green, which charges were then in course of investigation in Washington. This placed Lieut.-Colonel Shaul in command of the regiment. Colonel Green was finally sent home and dismissed the service. This unfortunate controversy for a time almost destroyed the prospective usefulness of the regiment and it was generally agreed that nothing would thoroughly harmonize the existing differences but an active campaign.

On the 21st of May the regiment was ordered to Fredericksburg, producing a gratifying change in the feelings of men and officers, and on the following morning, after marching five miles to Washington, took a steamer down the Potomac to Aquia creek, where they disembarked about midnight and bivouacked. In the afternoon of the next day the march was continued towards Fredericksburg, eighteen miles distant. At 10 o'clock in the night of the following day, weary and saturated with the falling rain, the 76th came in sight of Fredericksburg. It had been assigned to Brigadier-General Abner Doubleday's Brigade, and remained in camp near Fredericksburg, with little to vary the monotony and routine of camp life, until August 9th. Foraging expeditions, in which the 76th was notoriously successful, were often organized,[1] and

[1] It was customary to settle with the owners of live stock carried off on these expeditions with what were termed "slow notes," which the reluctant denizen of the Confederacy was compelled to accept for want of anything more satisfactory. Following is a verbatim copy of one of these notes, given by the 76th: —

"The undersigned freely acknowledges to have received, on the 1st day of July, 1862, from ——— Wallace, of King George county, Va., for the use and service

served to relieve the monotony of both diet and camp life.

After remaining on the north bank of the Rappahannock about a week, the regiment was sent across the river to guard the city, depot, bridge, etc. Major Livingston of the 76th was made Military Governor, a position which he filled with the most thorough efficiency.

On the 2d of July, Colonel William P. Wainwright having been assigned to the command of the regiment, he assumed the position and at once instituted regular and persistent drill, which had thus far been much neglected. This constant drill, though soon looked upon with some disfavor by the rank and file, was afterward estimated at its true value; for it was but a short time before the regiment was engaged in one of the severest battles of the war.

That the reader may more clearly understand the part which the 76th took in this battle it may be well to state the different organizations composing King's Division, the First Division of the First Corps. The First Brigade of this division was under command of General Hatch, and comprised the 2d regiment of U. S. Sharpshooters and four regiments of New York troops. The Second Brigade was under command of General Doubleday, and comprised the 76th and the 95th New York Regiments and the 56th Pennsylvania, to which was afterwards added the 7th Indiana. The Third Brigade was under General Gibbon and comprised one Indiana and three Wisconsin regiments.

On the 9th of August orders were received for this division to leave Fredericksburg and join the First Corps at Culpepper. At ten o'clock of the 10th the 76th reached Chancellorsville, where information was received that General Banks was then engaged with Stonewall Jackson, and the troops must be hurried up to reinforce him. The march was kept up through that and the following days, and the next morning intelligence was received that a bloody battle had been fought at Cedar Mountain on the 9th, and Jackson had withdrawn his forces. The brigade of General Doubleday camped between Culpepper Court House and Cedar Mountain, and on the 16th marching orders were received; from that date until the 21st the brigade was in motion most of the time, but to little purpose. In the mean time the army had withdrawn to the north bank of the Rappahannock, while Jackson, heavily reinforced from Richmond, confronted us on the opposite bank. On the 21st artillery firing was begun by both armies, and the 76th was marched about a mile to take a position in rear of a battery, passing in plain view of a rebel battery, by which it was shelled. This was the first time the regiment was under fire. The next morning vigorous cannonading was reopened and kept up for three days, during which several men in the 76th were wounded, but none killed. On the 24th the regiment was marched to Warrenton, and on the 26th to Sulphur Springs, where an artillery engagement was in progress. Remaining here through one night they joined with the remainder of General Pope's army, which had waited in vain since the 22d for reinforcements, and turned in retreat towards Washington.

The 28th of August, 1862, will long be remembered by survivors and friends of the 76th as the day on which the regiment was first brought into actual battle. The event is thus described by the historian before quoted: —

of the U. S. of America, one pony, eight mules, six fat cattle, ten good sheep, one wagon load of potatoes, one wagon load of vegetables, which I have valued at one thousand dollars. This voucher will be payable at the conclusion of the war, upon sufficient testimony being presented that the said Wallace has been a loyal citizen of the U. S. from the date hereof.

"CHARLES H. WATKINS, A. Q. M., U. S. A.

"By order of Brig.-Gen. ABNER DOUBLEDAY."

L. OF C.

"As the brigade again took up its line of march, evidences were multiplied that things were coming to a crisis. Constant cannonading was heard in different directions; squads of cavalry rode furiously through the cross-roads and fields, while the smoke of battle could be seen rising in ominous clouds in the distance. After passing Gainesville a mile or two, as the brigade, and more particularly that portion of it formed by the 76th, was moving over a level tract of half a mile in extent, with a wood in their front and a hill at their left, they were nearly paralyzed for a moment by a terrible discharge of artillery from the hill, and so near that the flash from the guns dazzled their eyes. . . . Some dropped down; others rushed forward upon those in advance, while others still were inclined to turn back. Never was the example of a cool and courageous man more opportunely set than by Colonel Wainwright at this critical juncture. Riding at the head of his regiment, he instantly turned his horse, and coolly riding back toward the rear of the column, between it and the rebel battery, as well by his easy and unconcerned manner as by his words, allayed the excitement and brought every man to his place.

"'O, my boys, don't run, don't run. Think a moment how it would sound to say, "the 76th ran."'

"No pen can describe the magic effect of those words, and that collected self-possession. Quietly turning his horse he allowed him to almost walk toward the head of the column; and, although the shells came thicker and faster, and with a more dangerous and destructive aim, the men kept steadily on until the wood was reached. But a few moments elapsed after entering the wood before sharp and continuous musketry firing was heard very near and up the hill hidden by the woods. A strange officer came riding down through the wood shouting: —

"'Come on! Come on, quick!'

"The 76th was immediately in motion, over fences, through bushes, around the trees, over logs, the bullets and shells tearing through the woods like a hail storm. Several of the men were killed and wounded before leaving the wood. After going about twenty rods the regiment emerged into an open field. Here was battle in real earnest. Just in front and a little to the left were the gallant boys of the 'Iron Brigade' (three Wisconsin and one Michigan regiments), fighting and falling in a manner terrible to behold. Just at this juncture, as the rebels were preparing in great numbers, in the woods beyond, for a charge upon our lines, the 76th and the 56th Pennsylvania were ordered into line to fill a gap between the 6th and 7th Wisconsin Regiments. By this timely movement the noble 'Iron Brigade' was saved from total annihilation.

"On coming near the enemy Colonel Wainwright thought it prudent to deploy a few files as skirmishers. He called up Captain Grover, Company A, and told him what he wanted. How well and nobly it was performed was evidenced by several wounds received on that occasion.

"During a lull in the action a body of men was seen moving on the extreme left flank. As they came forward they shouted:

"'Don't shoot your own men.'

"At that distance it seemed doubtful whether they were friends or enemies, and it was not without hesitation that the Colonel gave the order, 'By the left oblique. Aim! Fire!' No rebel of that column who escaped death, will forget that volley. It seemed like one gun. . . . When the smoke cleared away a little, the few left of that mass of human beings, who had so rapidly left the woods a few moments before, had disappeared, but the ground was literally covered with their dead and wounded. The 76th went into this fight with 224 men, of which, in the hour's struggle, ten were killed, seventy-two wounded, and eighteen missing. Five officers, four of whom were captured, were wounded, and many of the wounded were unable ever to take the field.

"Among the many examples of rare heroism performed in this engagement it will be just to mention the following: William H. Miller was early wounded in the foot, but refused to be carried from the field, and remained on the ground loading and firing. John L. Wood continued firing after his thumb was shot off, until he received a mortal wound. Daniel McGregor received a wound in his thigh from which he afterwards died, yet he rested on his other knee and continued firing until too weak from loss of blood. Sergeant Lawrence Banker, dying on the field,

sent his brother from his side with the words: 'Leave me and rush to the front!' Albert Olin, wounded in the arm, continued firing until disabled by another shot in the shoulder. James J. Card, although covered with blood from a wound in the head, continued firing until he was shot in the arm. Captain Fox received a ball in his lungs, and Captain Sager, while bravely leading his men, was terribly wounded, a bullet passing entirely through his body. All the officers displayed great bravery and coolness, calling out in Colonel Wainwright's report the expression: 'I cannot too much praise the men who supplied want of previous military preparation by their own nerve and resolution.'"

Similar conduct characterized this noble organization all through its terrible and destructive campaign, and the above examples of special acts of bravery are not intended to reflect in any way upon other members of the regiment, many of whom afterwards displayed equal heroism; but which cannot manifestly all be noted in detail.

On the 29th of August the 76th sustained an honorable part in the second battle of Bull Run, losing in the three days of fighting, skirmishing and marching, nine officers and eighty-eight men killed and wounded, and one officer and forty-eight men missing. The general retreat was continued until the night of September 1st, when the 76th reached Upton Hill, ending the short but severe campaign. Following is a summary of the report of Colonel Wainwright:—

"Beginning with the retreat from Cedar Mountain and, in the case of the 76th, with the march from Fredericksburg, it is seldom that an army is required to undergo more than our men performed. With scarcely a day's intermission, the Third Corps to which this regiment belonged was either making forced marches, often in the night, and through the hottest days of August, frequently without proper water, much of the time without food, or engaged in battles as severe and destructive as had taken place during this war. The regiment had already been under fire at five different battles. It had left New York with nearly one thousand men. The exposures of camp and those diseases incident to acclimation, had so reduced it that when it left Fredericksburg it contained about four hundred and fifty officers and men, and now, after the struggles of this campaign, though several had rejoined it from Fredericksburg and elsewhere, it only numbered about two hundred and twenty-five. Of the thirty line officers, only six remained — a fearful reduction in both officers and men."

Colonel Wainwright's report was accompanied by a request that the regiment be recruited, supplied with officers and a little rest be given to put it in condition to take the field. The only answer to this request was an order to march, half-equipped, to South Mountain, Antietam and elsewhere.

On the 6th of September the division was ordered to march through Washington, across the Potomac and into Maryland. On the 14th they passed through Frederick City, Md., and the next day played a conspicuous and honorable part in the terrible battle of South Mountain. Up the side of that steep and rugged eminence, in the calm quiet of a beautiful Sabbath afternoon, the troops toiled toward the scene of approaching carnage. As the brigade neared the summit, firing in front became more distinct and they soon entered the last line of forest skirting the crown of the mountain. Here a halt was made and bayonets fixed. The brigade occupied the left of the division, and the 76th the extreme left of the brigade; so that the left flank of the regiment was uncovered. On the right of the 76th was the 56th Pennsylvania. Through the woods came the rebel bullets, tearing the trees and shrieking overhead, while just ahead came the cheers and yells of the opposing troops. Hatch's Brigade had preceded Doubleday's Brigade and was now heavily engaged. While thus bravely

holding the ground, Doubleday's Brigade rushed with a shout to their relief. Hatch's Brigade retired, while the 76th and other regiments poured the deadly hail upon the enemy. Charge after charge was made by the rebels to break our lines, but each was repulsed, and thus for half an hour this brigade stood its ground against vastly superior numbers.[1]

Through the remainder of this destructive battle the 76th bore itself with the most heroic bravery, suffering several direct attacks from the enemy, about twenty men of the little band, including Colonel Wainwright, falling killed or wounded from the effects of one single volley. It was, perhaps, the severest fighting the regiment took part in during the war.

The next morning the fragment of a brigade was given opportunity to light fires, after the decisive victory, but their coffee and hard tack was scarcely disposed of before they were to march towards Boonesborough. The wounded were sent back to Fredericksburg, while the troops went forward after a retreating enemy. The 76th took part in the battle of Antietam, in which several were wounded, but its action was chiefly in support of artillery.

The 28th of October found the 76th again across the Potomac and ten miles into the State of Virginia, where they remained two days. On the 1st of November the brigade was sent to Snicker's Gap to prevent an attack from that direction, in support of a cavalry force under Gen. Pleasanton. The brigade was at this time under command of Lieut.-Colonel Hoffman, of the 56th Pennsylvania. During the succeeding three days the 76th was under fire most of the time. On the 6th of November, after hard marching, they reached Warrenton and camped four days within two miles of the town. Here Col. Wainwright rejoined the regiment. Ten days later the regiment went into camp at Brooks's Station, on the railroad from Aquia Creek to Fredericksburg, where it halted just six months before, after its first day's march in Virginia. On the 12th of December the regiment crossed the Rappahannock near Fredericksburg and assumed guard of the lower pontoon bridge at that point. In the battle which opened the next day Doubleday's division formed the extreme left of the army and the brigade in which was the 76th was on the right of that division. The battle raged from nine in the morning until eight in the evening, and our men suffered terribly. The principal feature of the battle, as far as Doubleday's Division was concerned, was its brilliant charge over a broad plain, facing a destructive fire of shot and shell, while from the right swept down the death-dealing missiles from rebel batteries. In this charge the 76th participated with its accustomed gallantry. The regiment went into the battle with 112 privates; of this handful, eleven were killed and wounded.

While stationed near Fredericksburg the division was compelled to lose its brave commander. General Doubleday was transferred to another division of the same corps, and was succeeded by General Wadsworth. General Doubleday was the man who fired the first gun in Fort Sumter; he was a soldier from principle, a man of great bravery and the officers and men of the

[illegible] to color-bearer for gallantry in saving the colors at Gainesville, was carrying the colors in this occasion. As the [illegible] promptly as this hero desired, he rushed forward about a rod in advance of the regiment, while the bullets were falling thickly around him, and planting the flag staff in the ground, shouted: "There! come up to that." But he made too good a mark, and before the regiment had time to obey the order, a fatal ball pierced his forehead and Charley Stamp, one of the truest and best men in the regiment, was mustered out of the army militant and mustered into the army triumphant. — Smith's *History* [illegible]

76th parted with him with the most sincere regret.

January 20th, 1863, Gen. Burnside issued an order announcing to the Army of the Potomac that they were soon to move, as he had decided upon a winter campaign. Everything was put in readiness and the grand army advanced. Three days of marching through swollen streams, caused by heavy rains, while the mud was of that depth that rendered progress nearly impossible, and the 76th found themselves again in their old winter quarters, Burnside having abandoned the proposed campaign.

On the 28th of April the regiment broke camp and marched to the Rappahannock, which they reached four miles below Fredericksburg, where they aided in laying a pontoon bridge, and the following night made preparations for the expected battle of the next day. Captain Swan, of Co. H, was wounded by a piece of shell during that night. The following day was occupied by vigorous artillery firing and the next morning, in a dense fog, the 76th was ordered on picket duty part way across the open plain in front. The position was reached, but when the fog lifted, the regiment found itself within a few rods of the rebel army. A fearful volley was fired by the latter, but the 76th fell flat on their faces and the bullets passed over their heads. All that day the regiment lay there close to the enemy, not daring to lift a hand. At length under the cover of darkness a hasty retreat was made from the undesirable situation. Several were wounded during the day.

On the 2d of May the whole First Corps crossed to the north side of the Rappahannock and were hurried on towards United States Ford, twenty miles up the river, where they bivouacked for the night. At daylight next morning the stream was crossed and at six o'clock the 76th reached the battle-field, where the fight soon opened with great fury. During the first day's fighting the regiment supported a battery of thirty-six guns, which repeatedly repulsed charges by Stonewall Jackson's forces, and on the 3d retreated with the army across the river, arriving in the afternoon at Falmouth, tired and discouraged with repeated failures to accomplish anything decisive.

On the 13th the first addition of men was made to the 76th, about fifty being assigned to it from the 24th New York, and two hundred more, with five officers, were added on the 24th from the 30th New York. The succeeding month was spent in camp in Falmouth.

It having become apparent towards the last of May that General Lee's army was contemplating some general movement, General Hooker submitted to President Lincoln a suggestion that all the troops whose operations could have any influence on Lee's army should be placed under one command. This was not done; but certain other orders relating to prospective operations were transmitted instead; and for two weeks the army of the Potomac was in that state of unrest which usually preceded some momentous movement.

After a campaign of marching, some of which was the most severe the regiment was ever compelled to undergo, the 76th left the soil of Virginia on the 25th of June, and, crossing the Potomac at Edwards's Ferry, marched past Sugar-Loaf Mountain on the 26th and went into camp at Jefferson, Maryland. The next day their camp was not far from the battle-field of South Mountain; the following day they marched to Frederick City, and on the 29th, while acting as wagon-guard, they marched a distance of thirty miles to Emmettsburg, where they went into camp. Here the regiment was mustered for pay by Major Grover, then in command; but,

it being late in the day, a portion of the regiment went on picket duty, and the certificates of muster could not be signed by the Major that night; indeed, they were never signed by him, for before another day had passed, Major Grover and nearly one third of the brave men who answered to that muster, were called into that grand army from the roll-call of which none will be absent.

The first gun in the bloody battle of Gettysburg was fired by the 76th; and all through that period of carnage, too terrible almost for narration, the noble regiment was in the thickest of the fight. In General Cutler's report of this battle he says: "Major Grover, commanding the 76th N. Y. Volunteers, a brave and efficient officer, was killed early in the action, and the command devolved upon Captain John E. Cook, and most ably and faithfully did he perform his duty."

The summing up of that field of death, as it relates to the 76th, is thus given by the historian of the regiment, as follows: —

"The regiment went into the fight with three hundred and forty-eight men and twenty-seven officers, and in half an hour it lost two officers killed and sixteen wounded; twenty-seven men killed and one hundred and twenty-four wounded; making a total of killed and wounded, in the half hour, of eighteen officers and one hundred and fifty-one men, or over half the officers and nearly half the men expended in that brief period."

The first of August found the 76th under orders to march to Beverly Ford on the Rappahannock, near the place where it was first under fire in 1862, with Captain Byram in command.

On the 12th of September about two hundred and fifty conscripts were added to the thinned ranks of the regiment, and before daylight of the 16th they were on their way to Culpepper, where they were paid off. Here the time until October 12th was spent in drilling recruits, which had swelled the ranks of the regiment to about one thousand. From this time until near the last of the year the 76th was undergoing hard service, in long marches during inclement weather, on picket duty, in support of batteries, and in skirmishes, principally in the vicinity of the Rappahannock, where Meade's army was then operating.

On the 18th of December an event occurred in the regiment which it would be a pleasure to overlook; this was the execution of Winslow N. Allen, a private in Company H, for desertion. Others who had received the death sentence for desertion had been pardoned, and almost to the hour of execution, the unfortunate man entertained the hope that the death penalty would be revoked. As the hour for the execution drew near Captain Swan visited the unfortunate soldier and assured him that he must no longer indulge in hope, as it was all in vain, and he should prepare for his awful doom. As the ominous sound of the drum was heard, which was the signal to march to the place of execution, he said: "Captain, you have been kind to me, which I can only return by my prayers for your welfare." Handing the captain his pocket book he said: "Take this; it is all I have, and when I am gone, please lay this (a fervent prayer for one in his situation printed on a card) on my breast."

As the solemn procession moved to the place of execution, Allen marched with a steady tread, but the sight of the open coffin and the yawning grave quite unmanned him. As the officer closed the reading of the charges, specifications, findings and order for his execution, the captain whispered: "Winslow, I can go no further with you; the rest of your dark journey is alone. Have you any last words for your wife and child?" "No; only tell them I love them all." These were his last words. The captain stepped back; the officer gave the signal;

the report as of a single gun rang out and Winslow N. Allen fell lifeless upon his coffin.

On the 2d of February the 76th was presented with a new stand of colors by the ladies of Cherry Valley. The old flag was now torn with the shots of at least eleven battles, in the front ranks of which it had been carried, and it was sent to Albany. Fourteen bullets, one shell and three fragments of shell had passed through the honorable banner.

On the 4th of May, 1864, the Second Brigade broke camp at Culpepper and moved on the Rapidan river. This brigade was composed of the 76th, under command of Lieut.-Col. Cook; the 14th Brooklyn, Col. Fowler; the 147th N. Y., Col. Miller; the 95th N. Y., Col. Pye, and the 56th Pa., Col. Hoffman. The brigade was under command of General J. C. Rice. It crossed the Rapidan at Germania Ford and encamped near the Wilderness Tavern. On the skirmish line, the first day of the battle of the Wilderness, the following officers of the 76th were captured: Capt. J. D. Clyde, First Lieut. Wm. Cahill, and Second Lieut. James Casler, of Company B. First Lieut. Wm. Buchanan, and Second Lieut. Wm. H. Myers, of Company F. Capt. E. J. Swan, First Lieut. Homer D. Call, and Second Lieut. Job K. Norwood, of Company K. Major Young was also captured the same day, and spent a year in rebel prisons.

The part taken in the battles of the Wilderness by the Second Brigade (including the 76th) is indicated by the fact that when it was reformed by Gen Rice, at 4 o'clock of the last day's fighting, it comprised detachments of eight regiments, the whole embracing but four hundred and eight men — less than half of one regiment.

On the 9th of May, and the two or three days following, the regiment was engaged in the battle of Spottsylvania. Here the brave General Rice was mortally wounded, and after his leg had been amputated he told the surgeon, when asked which way he would be turned to rest the most comfortably, to "turn my face to the enemy." General Rice was the third general who had been killed in less than a year while leading the 76th and its companion regiments.

On the 23d came the battle of North Anna, in which the 76th was honorably engaged. In his report of this action Col. Hoffman said: "In this action the officers and men behaved splendidly. I think to them is due the credit of saving the artillery from being cut off, and in all probability saving the army from a terrible disaster." The 76th was then under command of Capt. S. M. Byram.

On the 13th of June the regiment crossed the Chickahominy, and on the 16th the James river was crossed and the march towards Petersburg begun. On the 17th the brigade was moved up to the front, where breastworks were thrown up before the strongly posted enemy, who were attacked on the morning of the 18th. In the fighting that followed, Capt. Byram, in command of the regiment, fell severely wounded and never returned to the field. The brigade suffered severely, its casualties being eighty-four officers and fifteen hundred and fourteen men killed and wounded. Col. Hoffman's report said: "During the campaign the officers and men of the brigade have evinced great bravery, patriotism and fortitude. From May 3d to July 31st, a period of nearly ninety days, not more than five days passed that they were not under fire of the enemy."

In the operations in front of Petersburg; the destruction of the Weldon railroad; the sharp engagements at Hatcher's Run in the latter part of October; on the Hicksford raid, etc., the 76th bore honorable part.

Under date of December 7th, 1864, we find the following statement in the history

of the regiment from which we have so liberally drawn in preparing this sketch: —

"The original term of enlistment of all the members of the 76th Regiment expired before this date, and had there been no re-enlistments, this history had terminated at this point. But so many had re-enlisted the preceding winter and spring, that two companies yet remained. These were under command of W. Earle Evans, now lieutenant, originally a private in Company F. The patriotism of these men will continue this narrative to the end of the war, and the triumph of the Union arms."[1]

In the expedition resulting in the destruction of the Southside railroad, in February, 1865, the 76th was engaged and lost from the handful of men who formerly belonged to the regiment, one killed and two wounded. The only officers of the old regiment engaged were Lieuts. Martin Edgcomb and Geo. B. Hill. And so through that wonderful race after Lee's army, which evacuated Richmond under the pressure of Grant's tireless army, until, baffled, disheartened and conquered, the rebel general offered capitulations at Appomattox on the 9th of April, the little remnant of the magnificent organization that left Cortland to aid the government in its terrible struggle with treason, pressed on to the front, as it had always done, adding to its long list of heroic deeds.

After the grand review in Washington, "most of the volunteer forces," says the historian of the regiment, "were mustered out, the veteran regiments being retained until the last. As the organizations reached their homes they met with such receptions as returning heroes deserve — processions, banquets, speeches and all the outward tokens of welcome. Alas! no such reception awaited the 76th. Its time having expired in 1864, but few of the men remained in the service, and they had been absorbed in another organization. It had lost its identity, and its few remaining members came home singly and alone. But each member will ever point with just pride to those four words which sum up its glorious history: —

"'Expended in the service.'"

The following is a chronological list of the battles participated in by the Seventy-Sixth Regiment: Rappahannock Station, Va., August 21st, 1862; Warrenton, Sulphur Springs, Va., August 26th; Gainesville, Va., August 28th; Second Bull Run, Va., August 29th, 30th; South Mountain, Md., September 14th; Antietam, Md., September 17th; Snicker's Gap, Va., November 1–3d; Fredericksburg, Va., December 12th, 13th; Chancellorsville, Va., May 1–5th, 1863; Gettysburg, Pa., July 1–4th; Mine Run, Va., November 27th; Wilderness, Va., May 5th, 6th, 1864; Laurel Hill, Va., May 8th; Spottsylvania, Va., May 12th; North Anna, Va., May 24th; Tolopotomy Creek, Va., June 1st; Coal Harbor, Va., June 3–5th; Petersburg, Va., June 18th; Weldon Railroad, Va., August 18–21st; Poplar Grove Church, Va., September 30th; First Hatcher's Run, Va., October 28th; Hicksford Raid, Va., December 6–12th; Second Hatcher's Run, Va., February 6th, 1865; Five Forks, Va., April 1st; Lee's Surrender at Appomattox, Va., April 9th.

[1] tain E. B. Cochrane.

CHAPTER XI.

MILITARY HISTORY. — THE 157TH REGIMENT.

Recruiting the 157th Regiment — Sources of the Different Companies — Satff and Line Officers — Camp Mitchell — Ordered to the Front — In Camp at Arlington Heights — The Regiment Assigned — The First Death — At Centerville — Christmas in Front of Fredericksburg — In Burnside's "Mud Campaign" — Battle of Chancellorsville — Severe Marching — Gettysburg — The Roll Call After the Battle — Recruiting and Reorganization — Engagement at Hilton Head — An Incident — Major Place as Provost Marshal — Mustered Out.

THIS regiment was raised chiefly in Cortland and Madison counties. Company C came from the towns of Cincinnatus, Taylor, Cuyler and Willet. Company D from Marathon, Freetown, Preble and Scott. Company E from Cortland, Virgil and Harford. Company H from Homer and Truxton; and Company K from McGrawville, Marathon, Solon and Truxton. The remainder of the regiment was made up of Madison county men, except about thirty, who came from Chenango county. The regiment was ordered to rendezvous at Hamilton, Madison county, and while here on the 19th of September, 1862, was mustered into the United States service for a term of three years unless sooner discharged. The following were the regimental and line officers: —

Colonel — P. P. Brown, Jr.

Lieutenant - Colonel — George Arrowsmith.

Major — J. C. Carmichael.

Quartermaster — P. H. McGraw.

Surgeon — H. C. Hendrick.

Assistant-Surgeons — J. M. Crawe, F. D. Beebe.

Adjutant — O. E. Messinger.

Company A — Captain, J. H. Smith; First Lieutenant, George R. Seaton; Second Lieutenant, J. L. Palmer.

Company B — Captain, T. J. Randall; First Lieutenant, J. C. Ware; Second Lieutenant, C. H. Van Slyke.

Company C — Captain, Frank Place; First Lieutenant, J. A. Coffin; Second Lieutenant, Job D. Potter.

Company D — Captain, W. O. Dunbar; First Lieutenant, S. Z. Miner; Second Lieutenant, Luther L. Stillman.

Company E — Captain, B. B. Andrews; First Lieutenant, J. K. Backus; Second Lieutenant, B. F. Jones.

Company F — Captain, J. R. Stone; First Lieutenant, W. A. Stone; Second Lieutenant, Samuel Wickwire.

Company G — Captain, Abram Tuttle; First Lieutenant, W. D. Bailey; Second Lieutenant, H. Frank.

Company H — Captain, William Beck; First Lieutenant, —— Buck; Second Lieutenant, George Adams.

Company I — Captain, William Bellinger; First Lieutenant, T. W. Priest; Second Lieutenant, William Snider.

Company K — Captain, N. M. Daniels; First Lieutenant, William Barnum; Second Lieutenant, L. V. Kinney.

The following constituted the non-commissioned staff: —

Sergeant-Major — B. S. Fitch.

Quartermaster-Sergeant — C. O. Newton.

Commissary-Sergeant — A. W. Kingsbury.

Hospital Steward — —— Paige.

Drum-Major — Alexander Bates.

On the 25th of December the regiment left Camp Mitchell for the front. They arrived at Albany on the morning of the fol-

lowing day, where a stand of colors was presented them, and soon afterward the regiment was *en route* for New York city, where they arrived in the evening, and passed the night in City Hall Barracks. In a few days they were ordered to Washington, and went into camp temporarily on Arlington Heights. On Tuesday, the 30th of September, the first march of the regiment was ordered to Camp Chase. On the 11th of October marching orders were received, and when reveille was sounded, long before daybreak on the following morning, the tents were quickly struck, and the regiment was soon ready for the advance. After a weary march they arrived at Fairfax Court House, where the regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division of the Eleventh Corps, under General Franz Sigel. The division was under command of General Carl Schurz.

While at Fairfax Henry Richardson, of Company G, being employed on a detail to prepare a place for hospital tents, was struck by a stray bullet and instantly killed. Had Richardson moved his head but slightly, the fatal missile would have struck Major Carmichael, who was standing very near him. The death of Richardson cast a gloom over the entire regiment, and the scene when his lifeless body was taken away was one of the deepest sadness.

The regiment remained here about three weeks, when they were ordered to Centerville. After a few weeks here marching orders were received, and on the 15th the regiment joined Burnside's army; here the organization was ordered to prepare for inspection, in prospect of their taking part in the battle of Fredericksburg, which was then in progress. Christmas was passed in front of Fredericksburg. On the 19th of January the regiment was ordered to prepare for march at an hour's notice, with three days' rations. On the morning of the 20th camp was struck, and the columns started on the advance. One of the characteristic Virginia rain storms soon afterward began, and within two hours the movement of artillery and the pontoon trucks was impossible. On the morning of the 21st the enemy, with full knowledge of the movement, had posted near the river at Kelly's Ford, "Burnside stuck in the mud," a legend in which there was, unfortunately, too much of truth.

The regiment was ordered into winter quarters in a fine oak forest, known as Oakland Farm, where the erection of quarters was begun. These were scarcely finished when orders were received, on the 5th of February, before daylight, from Colonel Brown in person, to be ready to move at dawn.

The next day's march was through mud and rain, and on the afternoon of the 6th the column halted and went into camp about two miles from Burke's Station. The 157th participated in the battle of Chancellorsville on the 2d of May, where the loss in killed and wounded was quite heavy. The regiment was forced to leave their killed and wounded on the field in the hands of the enemy. Colonel Brown, in speaking of the part taken by the regiment in this engagement, says: "The 157th did its duty well. My officers proved themselves brave and efficient men, and the behavior of the regiment was such as to give full confidence to the future." The colonel placed the number of killed, wounded and missing in this engagement at one hundred and three; the list, however, was imperfect, as the number greatly exceeded Colonel Brown's estimate.

On the morning of May 5th the regiment returned to their camp, where they remained until the 12th of June, when marching orders were received, and they advanced a distance of nine miles, camping near the old grounds at Hentwood Church. The

march of the next day was one of great severity. A tramp of twenty-five miles in the month of June, on a dusty thoroughfare, under the scorching rays of a southern sun, is not a pleasure jaunt by any means, and members of the 157th who read these lines will remember that welcome bivouac in the green woods at the close of this day's fatiguing march.

After many days of severe marching, of which the reader has already gained an idea in the history of the 76th regiment, the 157th reached the bloody field of Gettysburg, in which it performed honorable service and lost many of its brave men and officers. At the close of the great struggle it was a sad sight to look upon the thinned ranks of the 157th; of the five hundred men who two days before marched up to meet the enemy, less than three hundred now remained. A relic of those bloody hours remains in the roll call taken on an envelope with a pencil, by Major Carmichael. It reads as follows : —

"First roll-call after first day's battle at Gettysburg, evening of July 1, 1863. Co. A, six privates, one corporal, one sergeant; Co. B, five privates, one corporal; Co. C, six privates, one corporal, one sergeant; Co. D, six privates, one corporal, one sergeant; Co. E, two privates; Co. F, five privates, two corporals, one sergeant; Co. G, seven privates, two corporals; Co. I, two corporals. Total, thirty-nine privates, eight corporals, four sergeants. Total fifty-one."

Many prisoners were taken from the regiment and were hurried off to those so-called prisons, life in which was far more to be dreaded than death on the battle-field.

Colonel Brown being ordered north, the command of the regiment devolved upon Major Carmichael. On the 25th of July the march was taken up for Warrenton Junction, a distance of thirteen miles, where they remained until the 1st of August, when they marched to Greenwich and went into camp. On Monday, the 3d of August, the troops marched to near Catlett Station, and on the 6th at midnight orders came to the division to proceed to the depot, packing everything for a passage to Alexandria. Taking the cars they arrived at that city on the morning of the 8th. At noon they boarded a steamer, which transported them down the Potomac to Hampton Roads, and thence to Newport News, where they arrived the following day. On the morning of the 10th the regiment boarded a steamer for passage to Charleston, S. C., and on the afternoon of the 12th they crossed the bar at Stony Inlet and disembarked on Folly Island. Here they remained until the 16th, when they were marched up the beach to the Rope Ferry where they crossed to Morris Island and proceeded to the front on three days' picket duty. The regiment remained in camp at Folly Island until February 7th, when marching orders were received. In a contest with the enemy soon after the 157th lost one man from Co. I and one wounded.

Near the close of April, 1864, a recruiting party returned to the regiment, Colonel Carmichael bringing with him a stand of colors presented to the regiment by the citizens of Cortland county. Soon after the regiment proceeded to Jacksonville, Florida, where the brigade was dissolved. An order dividing the regiment into two commands was received on the 20th of April. The larger, of six companies, to-wit, A, B, C, D, E, and F, under Colonel Brown, was to be stationed at Fernandina, while the remaining companies, G, H, I, and K, under Lieut.-Colonel Carmichael, where to proceed to Picolata, about forty-five miles above Jacksonville, on the St. John's.

On the 21st of April the regiment broke camp and moved to boats, the band and regimental colors of blue going with Col. Brown, while the Cortland banner remained

with Lieut.-Col. Carmichael. On the 15th of June the 157th was at Hilton Head, with Col. Brown again in command. Here a new brigade was formed, consisting of the 157th, 144th, 41st New York Vols., and the 104th Pennsylvania, under command of Col. Davis, of the latter regiment. The 157th was in the engagement which took place near Charleston the 5th of July, and lost one man taken prisoner. On the 28th of November companies A, B, C, G, and H, under command of the lieutenant-colonel, left Fort Pulaski for Hilton Head. The regiment was in the engagement at Honey Hill, where thirty men were wounded, Captains McWilliams and Lieutenants Grant and Forbes among the number. The battle of Honey Hill was a sharp contest, and the 157th added new laurels to those already honorably won. In the engagement the 157th and the 56th were fighting side by side, when the former fell back for ammunition. The enemy, observing this movement, increased their forces at that point and drove back the 56th. At this juncture Col. Carmichael ordered up the 157th, commanded them to charge and they dashed in upon the enemy, checked their onslaught and, driving them back, re-established the line. Loss, forty men.

On the 5th of December a reconnaissance in force was made on the Coosahatchie Road, where Col. Carmichael came near losing his life. The incident is related as follows by a private of the regiment: "Reaching a clearing on the right of the road, the line was wheeled to the right, to face an earthwork or redoubt on a knoll beyond, having an embrasure for one gun. Two or three rebel cavalrymen were discovered near the work, who disappeared, leaving the scene apparently rebelless. Col. Carmichael, evidently disliking the appearance of the place, halted his line when within easy musket range, and, with two cavalrymen, proceed to reconnoitre the position. The colonel had passed one-third of the distance round when a volley was poured from a force of the enemy secreted in the redoubt; the cavalrymen wheeled and withdrew, but the horse of the colonel was struck by a ball and threw its rider. The colonel arose from the tall grass, when another volley was fired at him. By that time the 157th's skirmishers were excited, and, without orders, commenced a rapid fire. The colonel ordered the men to cease firing, and crawling through the grass and bushes, succeded in getting to the rear without a bullet wound, yet severely injured by the fall from his horse."

On the 9th of December the regiment participated in an engagement, losing fifteen wounded, one mortally. February 27th, 1864, five companies of the 157th, D, E, I, H, and K, embarked for Georgetown, S. C. About a week afterward the remainder of the regiment followed. The quarters of the 157th at this place were in stores on Main street. The town was guarded by a provost-guard under Major Frank Place, as provost-marshal. Lieut.-Col. Carmichael commanded the regiment and Col. Brown the post. The Georgetown post was made a center for recruiting negro soldiers, and in consequence of orders from headquarters, promulgated to that effect, the country in that vicinity was nearly depopulated of blacks, who hurried within the Union lines. Among these uncultured people Major Place was a magnate of superlative greatness. He gave a patient ear to their many grievances and even solemnized marriages and granted divorces for them.

The garrison of Georgetown consisted of the 157th and four companies of the 107th Ohio. On the first of April they were reinforced by the 25th Ohio, four companies of the 56th New York, six companies of the 107th Ohio, 54th (colored) Massachusetts,

32d U. S. C. T., two companies of the 4th Massachusetts Cavalry, and a section of artillery for the purpose of forming an expedition into the interior of the State. April 5th the column moved off. Gen. E. E. Potter, commanded the expedition; Col. P. P. Brown, the Second Brigade; and Lieut-Col. Carmichael, the 157th Regiment. The night of the 5th was passed in the vicinity of Potato Ferry, on Black River. At six o'clock on the following morning the march was resumed, and after a severe tramp they encamped near Kingstree. The following night they went into camp at Montgomery's plantation, and the night of the 8th was passed at Brewerton. April 9th the march was again taken up, and, when within two miles of Dingle's Mills, they were informed that a battery of three guns commanded the approach to Sumpterville, and that the battery was located on the opposite side of a swamp one mile wide, and covering the road leading through it. Preparations were immediately made to capture the battery, and after the several positions had been taken up by the various commands, the 157th was ordered to the front, and Company I thrown forward as skirmishers, under command of Col. Carmichael.

When nearly through the swamp the men were fired upon by the enemy's skirmishers, and one man wounded. Company I immediately returned the fire, when the colonel ordered the firing to cease, and halted his men. At this juncture the firing of the enemy also ceased, and they hailed to learn who the advancing party were. The answer, "The 157th New York Volunteers" had hardly ceased to reverberate through the tangled wildwood, ere the enemy again opened a sweeping fire. Emerging from the swamp, the colonel halted his command behind a fence in front of the rebel position, and awaited the arrival of his regiment, which had become scattered. While waiting for his men to collect, an aid of Gen. Potter came through the swamp to ascertain the position, and the colonel's reply was, "Wait ten minutes, captain, and you can return to the general by way of the road." During this time the enemy directed a brisk fire with grape and canister, and scarcely had one-half of the regiment formed in line, when Col. Carmichael gave the order to charge. With a yell the men leaped the fence, and with a double-quick charged the battery, from which the enemy fled, leaving their guns and colors, together with their dead and wounded on the field. It was a dashing exploit, reflecting great credit upon the men of the 157th and their gallant commander. Colonel Carmichael's loss was twenty-two killed and wounded, and that of the enemy much greater.

Succeding the engagement at Dingle's Mills, the 157th participated in a spirited contest at Lampter and Rafting Creeks. On the 10th of July, 1865, the rolls were finished and the regiment mustered out of service, the work being completed August 1st.

The following is a list of battles participated in by this regiment; Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Hagerstown, Fort Wagner, siege of Charlestown, first and second John's Island, Camp Milton, Honey Mill, Partridge Hill, Deveaux Neck, Statesburg, Dingle's Mills, Lampter Creek, Rafting Creek.

CHAPTER III.

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the pine forest wherein the camp was located. A commodious log church was built and roofed with tent cloth furnished by the benevolent Christian Commission. Here the regiment remained until the 5th of February, 1865.

On the 4th of February orders were received to be in readiness to march at a moment's notice, and the next morning, a Sabbath, before daylight, the division was ordered to march towards Hatcher's Run. In the afternoon of that day occurred what is called the second battle of Hatcher's Run, in which the 185th did noble service and suffered considerably. During the early part of the engagement the 185th was held in reserve; but about the middle of the afternoon the brigade was ordered forward to relieve the Second Division of the Fifth Corps. This division occupied a position in front of a piece of woods. Beyond it was an open field upon the opposite side of which were some buildings and a sudden declivity, which was occupied by the enemy, serving as an intrenchment. Gen. Ayres's Division had here suffered terribly.

As the first brigade marched for nearly half a mile along the road through the woods, it was met by the wounded, fresh from the bloody carnage, some with wounds hastily bandaged, and others yet untouched by the surgeon, or in the jaws of death. This experience was a trying one to the men of the regiment—more so, perhaps, than the shock of battle itself; but the brave men, many of them with blanched cheek and tight-closed lips, pressed forward. The regiment had scarcely formed a line when a terrific fire was opened by the enemy. Colonel Sickel was one of the first wounded and turned the command over to Colonel Jenney. He, realizing the hazard of attempting to hold his exposed position against the enemy in his covered attitude, ordered the brigade forward. The order was obeyed in excellent form, through a galling fire. The field was won, though at considerable sacrifice. Among the wounded was Captain John Listman, whose leg was afterwards amputated at the hip. Adjutant Mudge was also wounded here, and never returned to the field.

The advanced position was held until darkness when the brigade retired to the main line. After the engagement Colonel Jenney sent Major Bush to establish a line of pickets on the right flank. While performing this duty, and when scarcely out of speaking distance of his regiment, the major and a squad of men were captured. Major Bush was sent to Libby Prison, and the regiment lost his valuable services. The brigade was warmly commended by General Griffin for its gallant service; and the praise was fairly earned.

The regiment again went into camp, and the second day after the battle Colonel Jenney left the organization, on account of the following circumstances: When he was commissioned as colonel of the 185th he was major of the Third New York Artillery and acting as provost-judge of North Carolina, stationed at Newbern; after receiving notice of his promotion, he had been taken prisoner by the enemy and paroled; with this *status* he was mustered as colonel and took the 185th to the front, expecting to obtain an immediate exchange. But while he regarded himself as bound by his parole, the War Department held the opinion that the officer who captured him had no authority to parole him, and that Colonel Jenney was therefore to be regarded as an "escaped," and not a "paroled" prisoner. In this situation he remained during his period of service with the regiment. After endeavoring in vain to induce the secretary of war to relieve him from the responsibility of his unfortunate position by an order declaring that he was not properly paroled

and sending him on duty, he was forced to seek relief by resignation. This resignation, sent in about the middle of January, had been accepted and an order honorably discharging him had been received by General Griffin just previous to the Hatcher's Run engagement; but at Colonel Jenney's request it was retained by the general until after the advance was made, when it was turned over to him. Lieut.-Col. Gustavus Sniper was at once promoted and bravely commanded the regiment during the remainder of its term of service.

On the 25th of March the division was ordered out before daylight to oppose an attack of the rebels on Fort Steedman, then occupied by the 14th New York Artillery, and forming a portion of the lines encircling Petersburg. The enemy made a determined assault, with the intention of severing the lines at that point; but the attempt failed totally and the rebels were driven back with heavy losses in killed, wounded and about 2,000 prisoners. About three o'clock in the afternoon an attack was made on the extreme left, involving the 185th, in which the Union arms were victorious.

The regiment returned to camp at Hatcher's Run and remained until the 29th, at which date Grant had determined upon an advance of the left wing of his army. Orders to march were received on the 28th, the movement to begin at three o'clock the next morning. The Fifth and Second Corps moved out southward until they crossed the run, then turned northward towards the enemy's right. The Second Corps crossed the run at the Vaughn Road, while Warren crossed four miles below, where the stream by its junction with Gravelly run became Rowanty creek, and then moved up towards the Boydtown Plank Road. At two o'clock Warren's Corps, including the 185th, reached Quaker Farm, where they met the enemy, and an engagement followed. The Union forces were retreating in disorder, especially the Second Division, when General Chamberlain, commanding the First Division, rode up to Colonel Sniper, exclaiming: "For God's sake, colonel, can you save the day with your regiment?" The colonel replied: "General, I will try." The 185th was immediately formed in line of battle, standing alone, as the 198th Pennsylvania had shared in the retreat, and was ordered to charge the enemy. Forward they went over a rise of ground, beyond which they were met by the advancing lines of the rebels in hot pursuit of the retreating division. Against the oncoming forces the gallant regiment threw itself, hurled back the enemy and turned the tide of the day; but it was at fearful cost. The killed and wounded in the regiment numbered one hundred and eighty. In some of the companies all of the officers were either killed or wounded. This heroic charge was the work of but less than half an hour, but it has been characterized as one of the most desperate, as well as important in its results of any in the war.

The fate of the colors of the 185th during this charge was most thrilling. B. B. Wilson was color-bearer at that time; he soon fell wounded. A private then seized the flag, and was immediately killed. Another private of Company D then grasped the banner and instantly fell wounded. Private Herman Rice, of Company B, next seized the colors, but his arm was pierced by a bullet, and they again fell. At this juncture Colonel Sniper, who was dismounted and in the thickest of the fight, seized the fallen flag, waved it on high and shouted, "Men of the 185th — forward!" A wild cheer went up, the regiment rushed forward and the field was won. For his personal bravery Colonel Sniper was warmly complimented by the general officers, while the

brave regiment was also showered with congratulations.

During the 30th and 31st important events transpired, resulting in severe fighting for the possession of the White Oak Road, during which the enemy was repulsed, losing heavily in prisoners, and Sheridan's forward movement to Five Forks, after much hard fighting. The battle of Five Forks, one of the most prominent of the engagements that were instrumental in terminating the rebellion, was fought on Saturday, April 1st, beginning in the afternoon and continuing until daylight the next morning. In this engagement the Fifth Corps was on the right and in the hottest of the contest. Several officers and many privates of the 185th were killed or wounded, and the regiment added to its already exalted reputation for bravery and heroism. The victory won in this battle was a most decisive one, and told clearly that the rebellion, as far as it was represented by Lee's army, was substantially crushed.

As darkness approached, on the 1st, the batteries along the entire line in front of Petersburg opened a bombardment that filled the heavens with its thunder, and lighted up the night with its glare. The rebel works were vigorously assaulted on Sunday morning, the 2d, and the outer lines carried, while the Sixth Corps, with two divisions of Ord's, drove everything before them up the Boydtown road at dawn; then wheeled to the left and swept down in rear of the rebel works, capturing guns and thousands of prisoners. Other equally important successes were achieved at other points along the lines that were rapidly drawing in towards Petersburg and Richmond, and admonishing General Lee that his doom was at hand. So evident had this fact become to him that he telegraphed Jefferson Davis in Richmond, at 10 o'clock a. m. of Sunday: —

"My lines are broken in three places. Richmond must be evacuated this evening."

Richmond was evacuated that night. Before noon of the next day the fall of the capital of the Confederacy, that had cost so many lives, was flashed to all parts of the world.

The concluding operations of the campaign, ending at Appomattox on the 9th of April, need not be detailed here. Griffin and Ord, with the Fifth, Twenty-fourth and one division of the Twenty-fifth Corps, by extraordinary marching, reached Appomattox about daylight on the morning of the 8th. Since the evacuation of Richmond and Petersburg the 185th had performed some of the severest marching of the war, interspersed with skirmishing and fighting, often without food and with very little rest.

A correspondence had begun between Generals Grant and Lee on the 7th, and the capitulation was completed at Appomattox on the 9th. The position of the two confronting armies on the morning of surrender is thus graphically described in Greeley's history of the rebellion: —

"Sheridan was with his cavalry near the Court House, when the Army of Virginia made its last charge. By his order his troopers, who were in line of battle, dismounted, giving ground gradually, while showing a steady front, so as to allow our weary infantry time to form and take position. This effected, the horsemen moved swiftly to the right and mounted, revealing lines of solid infantry in battle array, before whose wall of gleaming bayonets the astonished enemy recoiled in blank despair, as Sheridan and his troopers, passing briskly round the rebel left, prepared to charge the confused, reeling mass. A white flag was now waved by the enemy, before General Custer, who held our cavalry advance, with the information that they had concluded to surrender. Riding over to Appomattox Court-House, General Sheridan was met by General Gordon, who requested a suspension of hostilities, with the assurance that negotiations were then pending between Generals Grant and Lee for a capitulation."

Lieutenant Hiram Clark, of Company G, in the 185th, was the last man killed in the Army of Virginia.[1] He was in command of the skirmish line at Appomattox, and while the flag of truce was being shown, was struck by a rebel shell, which nearly cut him in twain. He was buried under a tree near the Court-House.

After the surrender the 185th was detailed, with some other regiments, to take charge of the rebel prisoners, and look after the captured arms and munitions; this duty occupied several days. The arms and ammunition were sent to Burkesville.

The 185th remained three days in camp, and were then ordered to Wilson's Station, on the Southside railroad, where they remained until May 1st, marching thence to Manchester, across the James river from Richmond. On the 5th of May orders were received to march to Alexandria; starting on the morning of the 6th, they crossed the Pamunkey river on pontoons, marched through Bowling Green, crossing the Rappahannock at Fredericksburg, and arrived at Arlington Heights on the 13th, after marching all night. After partaking in the grand review of the army by the president, in Washington, on the 23d of May, the regiment returned to camp, and was mustered out of service on the 30th. On the following day, at 3 o'clock p. m., they left Arlington for home, arriving in Syracuse on the 3d day of June, where they received a generous welcome. The regiment was paid off at Camp White on the 10th of June, by Major Littlefield.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

Besides the large bodies of volunteers, whose movements have been described, many of the young men of this county enlisted in other organizations, either in bodies or singly. A company was raised early in the year 1861, which joined the 23d Regiment, and was mustered in at Elmira on the 16th of May. Its officers were Martin C. Clark, captain; Alvah D. Waters, lieutenant; B. B. Andrews, ensign; Stephen V. Larabee, first sergeant; Cornelius Lansing, Leonard Hathaway and Alvin F. Bailey, sergeants. The regiment served two years, and was commanded at the time of its muster by Colonel H C. Hoffman.

A company was raised, principally in Homer, which joined the "Old Twelfth" Regiment, from Onondaga county, which was mustered at Elmira on the 23d of April, 1861, for three months. A large majority of its members re-enlisted at the expiration of that term of service. The officers of this company were George W. Stone, captain; Lucius C. Storrs, lieutenant; George Snyder, ensign.

SUMMARY.

In the war of the rebellion, Cortland county, according to the census of 1865, lost by death in the field, two hundred and thirty-three volunteers, belonging to the following regiments: 10th New York Infantry, 7; 12th, 7; 15th, 1; 23d, 3; 32d, 1; 44th, 3; 50th, 6; 51st, 1; 57th, 1; 64th, 1; 76th, 51; 81st, 1; 105th, 1; 109th, 4; 111th, 1; 114th, 5; 117th, 1; 121st, 1; 122d, 1; 129th, 1; 137th, 2; 138th, 1; 146th, 1; 147th, 1; 149th, 1; 157th, 55; 161st, 1; 168th, 1; 185th, 18. 10th New York Cavalry, 8; 12th, 1; 19th, 2. 1st Battery, 2. 2d New York Regular Artillery, 2; 3d, 1; 5th, 3; 9th, 10; 16th, 4; other States, 8; United States Regulars, 2; unknown, 11. Total, 233.

[1] It has been often stated and printed that Lieutenant Clark was the last man killed in the war of the rebellion. This cannot, of course, be true, as fighting in the southwest was continued for some time after Lee's surrender. The killing of the last man in the war occurred in Texas.

CHAPTER XIII.

OFFICIAL ACTION IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

The First Public Act — An Important Resolution — Action of the Board of Supervisors Relative to Payment of Bounties — The Committee of 1864 — Money Borrowed for the County — The Bounty Committee — Further Sums Raised — A County Bounty Offered — The Call for 500,000 Men — Bounties Increased — Issue of Bonds — Loans by the County to the Towns — Statistics.

THE first public act on the part of the officials of Cortland county, in aid of the Union armies for the putting down of the rebellion, was done on the 12th day of November, 1862, by the Board of Supervisors. It consisted of a resolution offered by Mr. S. A. Childs, of Scott, as follows: —

"*Resolved*, That this Board request Hon. Henry S. Randall to proceed to Albany to make the necessary proofs to the governor and adjutant-general, in respect to the number of volunteers who shall be credited to this county, and to confer with those officers in respect to the draft to be made from this county."

This resolution was the precurser of the long series of public measures, embracing the most prompt and vigorous action in aid of the government, embracing a liberal appropriation of money and the enlistment of hundreds of brave men, which followed during the period of the war.

Mr. Randall made the visit as requested. The next measure was the passage of the following resolution on the 21st of November, 1862, which is self-explanatory: —

"*Resolved*, That the Board of Supervisors of Cortland county do approve of and recommend the passage of an act by the Legislature, directing that in each of the towns of said county in which money has been raised, in pursuance of a vote in town meeting, or by the action of properly authorized persons, to pay bounties to or for raising volunteers who have enlisted from said towns into the service of the United States since July 2d, 1862, a tax shall be levied to repay the monies so raised and actually expended for said objects."

The committee of the Board of Supervisors on military affairs for 1864 comprised Messrs. M. Van Hoesen, George W. Phillips and Solomon Goddard; they found plenty of work. Petitions began to come in from a majority of the towns of the county, asking the board to offer an additional bounty of $300 to all volunteers under the recent call of the president for 300,000 men. Upon these petitions a majority report was made to the effect, in brief, that owing to the comparatively small number of the petitioners, and that such action was contrary to a recent act of the Legislature, the board would decline to act. This report was adopted, and the committee were directed to go to Syracuse for conference with a like committee of that county. The several towns were instructed by the board to hold special town meetings on the 15th of December, for the purpose of getting the voice of the tax payers upon the proposition to raise money to pay a bounty of three hundred dollars to all volunteers. The town meetings were held and the board authorized to pay the bounty. The county treasurer was accordingly empowered to borrow a sum not to exceed $103,800, for which county bonds should be issued, to pay the proposed bounty to all volunteers enlisting after January 1st. A committee consisting of Messrs. S. E. Welch, George W. Phillips and M. Van Hoesen was appointed to supervise the payment of bounties and kindred matters.

A special meeting of the board was called for February 10th, 1864, at which action was taken to raise $70,000, or as much as should be necessary, to pay bounties for

volunteers under the calls of October 17th, 1863, and February 1st, 1864. This action was not intended to conflict with previous measures. At the same time recruiting agents were instructed to push their work as fast as possible.

The next special meeting was held on the 6th of July, and a committee was appointed consisting of five members — Messrs. Geo. W. Phillips, D. McGraw, M. Van Hoesen, P. Mallory and Silas Blanchard — to take into consideration the propriety of offering a county bounty for volunteers under the recent call for 500,000 men. Town meetings were again recommended, and the offering of $150 for one year men, $250 for two year men, or greater sums, if deemed expedient. In this the towns concurred, and the treasurer was authorized to borrow the necessary amount for the proposed bounties; each town was made liable for its proper proportion of the amount raised. Messrs. George W. Phillips, M. Van Hoesen, D. McGraw, S. E. Welch and Hiram Crandall were appointed a committee to supervise the payment of bounties under this measure.

At the annual meeting of this year (1864) the county treasurer was empowered to issue bonds payable in March, 1873, for a sum sufficient to pay all outstanding indebtedness on account of bounties.

The report of the committee upon filling the quota under the call for 500,000 men stated, in effect, that in order to obtain volunteers, they were compelled from time to time to increase the amount of bounty offered until it reached the sum of $1,000; competition in other counties was also instrumental in necessitating this increase. To pay the bounties under this call, the treasurer issued bonds as follows: —

$31,700,	payable March 1st,	1865,	with interest.
40,300,	" "	1866,	with annual interest.
40,000,	" "	1867,	" "
40,000,	" "	1868,	" "
32,500,	" "	1869,	" "
20,700,	" "	1870,	" "
57,300,	" "	1871,	" "
59,770,	" "	1872,	" "
44,000,	" "	1873,	with semi-annual int.
7,000,	" "	1875,	" "

Total, $373,270.

A special meeting of the Supervisors was called for December 30th, 1864, at which a committee of five was appointed to take into consideration the payment of bounties for volunteers under the final call for 300,000 men, made December 19th, 1864. The committee was composed of Messrs. Phillips, Goddard, O. F. Forbes, M. Van Hoesen and D. O. Surdam. Special town meetings were recommended, with the offer of $400 for one year men, $500 for two year men, and $600 for three year men. The sum of $15 brokerage was also proposed for each enlistment procured. The treasurer was authorized to make another loan of the necessary amount for this purpose.

At the annual meeting of 1865 a report of the committee acting on the last call was made. The resolutions passed by the board upon that call were adopted in all of the towns, except Marathon, Solon and Truxton. The committee also reported that they deemed it inexpedient or impossible to pay for filling the quotas in the several towns of the county by the sale of bonds by the treasurer; they, therefore, resolved to loan to the Supervisors of the respective towns the county bonds in sufficient sums to pay for the same. Most of the towns accepted this proposal.

At the annual meeting in November, 1865, proceedings were had relative to reimbursements by the State for bounty moneys.

The following table exhibits the amount paid in filling the quotas of the several towns of the county, under the various calls for volunteers in the War of the Rebellion, and tha total amount paid for each, and the amount paid on the principal in 1864: —

TOWNS	Amount paid on calls of October, 1863, and February and March, 1864	Amount paid on call of July 18, 1864	Amount paid on call of Dec. 19, 1864	Total amount of in debtedness	Average Per Cent. Paid in
Cincinnatus	$ [illegible]	$23,050	$ [illegible]	$ [illegible]	$ 3,218 88
Cortlandville	[illegible]7,[illegible]	80,050	[illegible],413	134,105	11,684 04
Cuyler	9,000	19,050	[illegible],[illegible]7[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible]7	3,077 75
Freetown	[illegible],[illegible]4	14,050	2,215	20,165	1,948 70
Harford	6,900	14,[illegible]75	5,435	26,910	[illegible],[illegible]1 [illegible]
Homer	15,000	[illegible],[illegible]75	15,890	84,565	7,346 97
Lapeer	2,100	11,825		[illegible],[illegible]7	1,511 74
Marathon	7,200	[illegible],[illegible]75		[illegible],[illegible]75	[illegible],[illegible]1 [illegible]
Preble	6,600	22,175	[illegible],[illegible]5	36,680	3,091 32
Scott	9,300	6,150	2,604	18,090	1,678 29
Solon	2,700			2,700	[illegible]; [illegible]
Taylor	[illegible],[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible]7[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible]15	36,290	3,221 59
Truxton	13,800	13,900		27,700	3,007 18
Virgil	12,600	[illegible]7,[illegible]75	[illegible]75	[illegible],[illegible]4[illegible]	6,380 76
Willet	[illegible],[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible]55	[illegible],[illegible]15	28,265	2,828 05
TOTAL	$133,200	$383,675	$ 78,090	$594,965	$55,850 00

The whole amount of bonds issued in the county for bounties was $610,070, falling due as follows:—

On or before March 1, 1865	$ 57,600
On or before March 1, 1866	126,300
On or before March 1, 1867	86,200
On or before March 1, 1868	77,700
On or before March 1, 1869	62,100
On or before March 1, 1870	67,200
On or before March 1, 1871	64,200
On or before March 1, 1872	59,770
On or before March 1, 1875	9,000
Total	$610,070

The enlistments and bounties paid in each town will be found in the town histories in later pages.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE CORTLAND COUNTY PRESS.

The First Newspaper — The Pioneer Journalist — Description of the "Cortland Courier" — Changes in Proprietorship and Names — Dr. Jesse Searl's Career as a Publisher — Another Change — A Sheet of 1830 — A Glimpse at its Contents — Rufus A. Reed and His Connection with Cortland Journalism — The Predecessors of the "Cortland County Republican" — The Oldest Paper in Cortland Village — Ancestors of the "Standard" — The "Western Courier" — Establishment of the "Democrat" — Seth Haight's Administration — H. G. Crouch Enters the Arena — The "Cortland American" — C. P. Cole and the "Gazette" — The "Republican Banner" — The "Cortland Journal" — First Issue of the "Cortland Standard" — The "Cortland County Democrat" and its Predecessors — The "Cortland News" — The "Marathon Independent" and its Predecessors — The "McGrawville Sentinel" — The "Otselic Valley Register" — The Newspaper Death Roll.

ALTHOUGH the territory of Cortland county was more backward in point of settlement than many other portions of this State, it is an indication of the general intelligence of the pioneers that a newspaper was demanded and supported here earlier than in many localities where settlement was much farther advanced.

James Percival was the pioneer journalist of Cortland county. He issued the first number of the *Cortland Courier* in Homer village in the year 1810; the exact date we have been unable to obtain, nor have we succeeded in finding a copy of the paper while it bore the name above given. The *Courier* made its appearance one year before there was a newspaper at Onondaga Hollow; two years before there was one at Buffalo, and nineteen years before there was one at Syracuse. Previous to its issue the few inhabitants of Cortland county must have depended for their local news (and it was very little they got at the best) on newspapers printed in Onondaga county, of which Cortland county was a part until 1808. There were the *Gazette*, started at Manlius in 1806, by Abraham Romeyn; the *Herald of the Times*, at the same place in 1808, beyond which the early settlers of this county who felt the need of newspapers

were compelled to resort to those of New York or other large cities.

Like all of the early newspapers, the *Cortland Courier* was an insignificant affair, when compared with the handsome sheets of the present day. It was not more than one-third as large as the present *Cortland Standard;* was printed on dingy, yellowish paper, in large type and without column rules; but judging from later editorial work by Mr. Percival, its editor, the *Courier* was a paper the utterances of which commanded respect. Mr. Percival continued to publish it until some time in the year 1812, when it passed into the hands of H. R. Bender and R. Washburne, who changed its name to the *Farmer's Journal;* this firm paid more particular attention to the agricultural interests of the county, but evidently without attaining such a measure of success as to justify their continuance in the profession; so they sold to Dr. Jesse Searl, in the year 1813.

Again the name was changed, as well as the general character of the paper, Dr. Searl calling it the *Cortland Repository*. Of this paper a few numbers are extant, the more prominent features of which have already been referred to. It was still printed on paper of rough texture and dingy hue and comprised four pages of four wide columns to the page. Ample room is given in its columns to foreign news, but for many consecutive numbers not a line of what might, by the most liberal construction, be termed local news is found in its columns. Yet, as newspapers averaged at that period, the *Repository* appears to have been a very creditable publication. The proprietor, as was then customary, kept books for sale, and advertised juvenile spelling books, Columbian readers, Starkweather's arithmetic, History of Charles the XII, Spafford's Gazetteer of the State of New York, A Life of Bonaparte, Testaments, etc. He also published and offered for sale two sermons on the Origin of Oral Evil, delivered at Pompey in 1814, by the Rev. Jabez Chadwick. Dr. Searl continued the publication of the *Repository* until the year 1825, during which period (or a portion of it) he made himself a worthy antagonist in political discussions, and personal wordy conflicts with rival editors in Cortland village which would scarcely be admitted to the columns of even the most radical and vindictive newspaper of to-day.

Milton A. Kinney was the purchaser of the paper from Dr. Searl, and he, following in the wake of his illustrious predecessors, rechristened his sheet as the *Cortland Observer*. Under his management the journal was greatly improved. Copies of it published along in 1830 show it to have been somewhat enlarged, printed on vastly better paper, column rules used, smaller type and a general better style. Local news, however, except an occasional stray item, seems to have been beyond the ideas of the editor as to the needs of his readers.

In the issue of August 13th, 1830, we find the announcement of the breaking out of a virulent disease in the towns of Spafford, Scott, Preble and Truxton, which, in the opinion of Drs. Porter of Marcellus, Miller, of Truxton, and Owen, Bradford and Wakely, of Homer, was small-pox; several persons had already died of it. In the same number the editor goes to the *Ithaca Chronicle* for a report of an Anti-Masonic meeting held a week earlier in Freetown in this county. At that meeting Samuel S. Whitman and Charles W. Lynde were chosen delegates to the senatorial convention, to be held in Cortland village on the second Wednesday in September.

Among the prominent advertisers of that period were James McNeil, general store; the Homer furnace, "constantly in blast," by J. Sanders, jr., & Co.; A. Burr, harness shop; tailoring, by Wm. and John L. Brown; S. B. Hitchcock, boots and shoes, and H.

S. Babcock, tailoring. William Sherman's "Homer Exchange" is also liberally advertised.

The *Observer* favored the nomination of Henry Clay, and was Anti-Masonic in its State politics. Mr. Kinney continued the publication of the paper until 1833, when it passed into the hands of Simon S. Bradford, who conducted it for three years. Strange to say he did not change its name. The next owner was a Mr. Holmes, but he does not appear to have kept it long, as he took it about the year 1836, and sold it to Rufus A. Reed in 1837; but Mr. Holmes had the paper long enough to change its name to the *Homer Eagle*. In the year 1828 Mr. Reed, with a man named Osborn, had started the *Cortland Chronicle* in the village of Cortland; this paper was conducted solely by Mr. Reed in 1832, and in 1837, as above stated, he purchased the *Homer Eagle* and consolidated the two under the name of the *Republican and Eagle*. Mr. Reed was a man of unusual intelligence and a good writer; he made his paper a Whig and later a Republican organ of influence and good character. Mr. Reed was elected county clerk in 1849, and held the office until 1855. He continued the publication of his paper until 1852, when E. F. & C. B. Gould became its owners and again changed its name to the *Cortland County Whig*. Two years later, in the latter part of 1854, it passed into the hands of Joseph R. Dixon, who gave it the name of the *Cortland County Republican*, for which change there was ample reason in the altered name of the Whig party. Mr. Dixon was for a short time in company with one of the Gould brothers, and afterward, during the year 1855 with W. H. Case, but he soon assumed the entire control of the concern. He was a man of excellent abilities, thoroughly educated and had acted as professor of mathematics in the academy at Homer for a number of years. He always bore a high reputation as a man of unimpeachable integrity and noble Christian character. In assuming the editorial chair he wrote as follows: —

"At the suggestion of a few personal and political friends the undersigned has made arrangements to become the editor and joint proprietor of this paper. He has assumed this responsibility, it is true, without the benefit of long experience; but he believes that his common sense, his general knowledge of the world, his integrity of purpose, and his attachment to the fundamental principles of the Whig party, will enable him to discharge the duties of the station he proposes to occupy in a such a manner as to satisfy the reasonable expectations of those who read the *Whig*. . . . We shall labor to promote the interests of education, morality, temperance and freedom; to diffuse useful information among our readers, and to secure the return of Wm. H. Seward to the Senate of our nation. With these intentions we enter upon our work, looking to our friends for a cordial and hearty support."

No one who is familiar with the *Whig* and the *Republican* during the long period while they were edited and owned by Mr. Dixon, will deny that he ever knowingly departed from these clearly expressed intentions, or failed in any way to do the best that in him lay to promote the welfare of his political party as well as of the community at large. He continued the publication of the paper until 1876,[1] when it was purchased by Wm. O. Bunn, the present publisher. In order to give the name of the paper more of a local significance, he changed its title, in 1877, to the *Homer Republican*. Upon Mr. Bunn's accession he at once improved the paper and the printing establishment connected with it, making it one of the best country weeklies and job printing concerns in the State. He is

[1] Mr. Dixon was killed on the track of the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad, while engaged in surveying. His widow, who was a sister of E. F. and C. B. Gould, still resides in Homer village.

thoroughly versed in politics and soon gave the *Republican* a reputation in this direction very flattering to him, and at the same time making it bright and newsy. Its patronage was, of course, largely increased. In January, 1882, he associated George Fisher in the editorial management of the paper, in which connection he is still retained. Mr. Bunn is now internal revenue collector for the district, with headquarters in Syracuse; but he still exercises an oversight of his office. The *Republican* is a credit to Homer and a welcome visitor in many households.

There are at the present time three newspapers published in Cortland village, the oldest of which, going backward through its lineal ancestors, is the *Cortland Standard*. On the 30th day of June, 1815, was issued the first number of the *Cortland Republican*, by James Percival. He was a fluent and rather forcible writer and had, presumably, gained a little valuable editorial experience during his career in Homer, to which allusion has already been made. The *Republican*, true to its name, was strictly Republican in politics. It was a small paper, with four columns of "small pica" on a page and printed on paper of the usual yellow-white color, the best that could be obtained at that time. There were few editorials in its columns and the customary dearth of local news. In the issue of September 30th, 1815, just three months after its birth, the editor printed the following announcement: "The public are informed that from this day, I shall relinquish my concern in the office of the *Cortland Republican*, published by Osborne & Campbell, whose talents are ample and whose political tenets are orthodox."

In August, 1816, it was announced that Mr. Campbell had retired from the *Republican* establishment, Mr. Obadiah Boies taking his place; but it was only for a few months; in December of that year Mr. Campbell was back in the establishment, and in the following year the firm became B. S. & D. Campbell. These gentlemen published the paper until May, 1821, giving it a life of almost six years — a period of existence much longer than the average of newspapers at that time. The rivalry between the villages of Homer and Cortland, to which allusion has already been made, reached its height during this period, and out of that and their opposite political creeds, with the usual business opposition, grew a prolonged and bitter newspaper warfare between the *Republican* and the *Repository*, printed in Homer by Dr. Jesse Searl. This frequently descended into personalities of the most vindictive character which, while they established the fact that the Campbell Brothers were vigorous writers, could not have failed to lower the dignity of their journal.

In the month of April the firm of B. S. & D. Campbell was dissolved, the latter continuing the business. At about this time serious dissension arose in the ranks of the Republican party and the campaign of 1820 was especially exciting. This or other causes, or both, led to the establishment in Homer village in 1821, of the *Western Courier*, by two young men named Roberts and Hull. After a very short time this establishment was removed to Cortland, and then began a wordy battle more bitter and persistent than the former one to which we have referred, between the new candidate for political favor and the *Republican*. But it appears that the new-comers, with the *Courier*, were on the rising tide of politics, and on the 16th of May the perplexed editors of the *Republican* announced that as there were then three newspapers in the county, where the patronage was scarcely sufficient for one, they had resolved, after six years of labor, to reduce the size

of their paper; and that for the present a small sheet only would be issued, at half the former price.

As near as we have been able to ascertain, this movement was made merely to fulfill advertising contracts and the *Republican*, as a newspaper, ceased to exist at that time, until revived by Rufus A. Reed, in 1832, to be consolidated with the *Homer Eagle*, as before detailed. The Campbell brothers subsequently went to Sandusky, Ohio, where they engaged in the newspaper business. Mr. Reed conducted the *Republican* for about five years, before its consolidation. During a portion of this period his office was in the second story of what was long known as Elder's store, when Webb & Edgcomb having, in 1836, erected the three story brick structure on the corner of Main and Port Watson streets, since transformed into the Keator Block, the office was removed to the corner rooms in the third story. In writing of Mr. Reed's editorial career, Mr. H. G. Crouch (again alluded to a little further on) said: "The shifting political elements in opposition to Gen. Jackson had doubtless left to the two papers, the (*Republican* and the *Homer Eagle*) an uncertain tenure, and upon the crystallization of those elements into the Whig party, under the leadership of Henry Clay, Mr. Reed, then a young man and an excellent printer, 'read his title clear' to the organization of a strong majority party in the county, with such advantages as accrue to that special relationship, consisting in a large measure in rendering valuable assistance to aspiring politicians, with the least possible return of either favors or thanks; more often than otherwise the blackest ingratitude. Mr. Reed prospered moderately, but whether in prosperity or adversity, his was the same cheerful temperament, which made the bad seem to him to be very much the same as good fortune."

The *Western Courier* was continued as such until 1824, when its name was changed to the *Cortland Journal*. It was published by D. Smith in 1824, but for how long a period we have been unable to learn. Chas. W. Gill then took it and transferred it some time before 1827 to J. J. Cantine, in whose hands it was during the latter year and probably until the year 1832, when the name of the paper was again changed to *The Cortland Advocate*. Henry S. Randall, soon after his entrance into political life, became its editor; he was possessed of literary ability of a high order, but was not a practical printer and soon wearied of the annoyance and detail connected with the regular publication of a newspaper; he accordingly sold the establishment to David Fairchild, who, as early as 1838, removed it to Ovid, N. Y., where he started the *Ovid Bee*. This again left Cortland without a second newspaper. During at least a part of its existence (1833) the *Advocate* was published by C. W. Mason.

At this period the leaders of the Democracy throughout the county embraced a large majority of the prominent legal gentlemen and other personages conspicuous in the political arena, although there was a small Whig majority in the voting population. The State administrations and the Senatorial and Congressional districts, were almost uniformly Democratic; hence there were numerous men of that political complexion who aspired to prominence. Among them were such as Joseph Reynolds, S. G. Hathaway, Henry Stephens, Roswell Randall, Wm. Bartlit, Edward C. Reed, Townsend Ross, George Ross, J. De Puy Freer, Anthony Freer, John Gillet, Alanson Coats, and others of the older men; and Horatio Ballard, Henry S. Randall, Frederick Hyde, Henry Brewer, Wm. H. Shankland, James S. Leach, Wm. Lyndes, Andrew Dickson, Wm. B. Allen, Oliver Glover,

of the younger generation. It was the prominence and activity of such men, coupled with the exciting political campaign of 1840, that led to the establishment of a Democratic "organ" in Cortland village. A stock subscription of about $800 was raised and an arrangement made for the publication of the *Cortland Democrat* with Seth Haight and Henry W. De Puy, the latter a young man from Fayetteville, Onondaga county, and a recent graduate from college. Haight was a practical printer, having learned his trade in the *Advocate* office, under Mr. Randall's proprietorship; he was a genial, convivial sort of man of fair abilities. The *Democrat* was started in the spring of 1840, the office being located over a hat store then kept by Canfield Marsh, on or near the site of the Union Hall Block.

Meantime the *Republican and Eagle* had become the *Cortland County Whig*, which guided the party of that name through the exciting campaigns of that and the following years. Prominent in that party then were such men as William Andrews, David Mathews, Harry McGraw, Dr. John Miller, Cephas Comstock, John J. Adams, Tercius Eels, Alanson Carley, Isaac A. Gates, Gideon Babcock, Joel B. Hibbard, Danforth Merrick, Jedediah Barber, James C. Pomeroy, Daniel Hawks, and many others who were uncommon and influential men, in different parts of the county. The political campaign of 1840 will not soon be forgotten by any who witnessed or took part in it; but the Whigs carried off the spoils. In the spring of 1841, Mr. De Puy retired from the *Democrat*, Mr. Haight continuing its publication alone. In April the office was removed into what is now the Keator Block. The *Democrat* was a creditable looking journal for that period; had six columns to the page and was made up of a little news, considerable politics and more selections of a literary character. Mr. Haight was little of a writer, and employed Henry S. Randall to assist in his editorial work. In the spring of 1840 Henry G. Crouch entered the office to, as he puts it, take the leadership of the sweeping and roller brigade, and it was a portion of his duty to trudge a mile and return out to Mr. Randall's farm on the Virgil road, for that careful writer to revise his proof sheets. For a few years at this time Harmon S. Conger was the editor of the *Whig*, though Mr. Reed kept his interest in the establishment. Mr. Conger was then a young and ambitious lawyer, and he soon attained a position of distinction in the county as a political leader. In 1846 and 1848 he was elected to Congress in this district, the first term over Wm. H. Shankland.

The campaign of 1844 was similar to its predecessor in everything except the bitter asperities of rival newspapers and individuals. Not long subsequent to the close of this campaign Mr. Reed removed the *Whig* to Homer, where he continued to publish it until he was elected county clerk in 1849, as before stated. The division of the Democratic party in 1848 was disastrous to Mr. Haight and the *Democrat*;[1] the paper supported Cass, and the publisher's lack of editorial training was a serious embarrassment; the *Democrat* lost much of its influence and prosperity and Haight finally sold it to

[1] In the supplement of the *Cortland Standard*, to which allusion has been made, we find the following reminiscence from James H. Sinclair, who was working in the *Democrat* office at the time of the occurrence: "In the summer of 1845 we advertised for an apprentice — 'one from the country preferred.' One afternoon a little white-haired chap, with uncommonly large, intelligent-looking eyes, came to the door and said he had called in response to the advertisement, and wished to learn the trade. We doubted whether he would fill the bill, as he was not more than twelve years of age, and slight in his make-up; but he was anxious — he had walked up from Marathon, and wanted to try it. He did; and little did I think, while initiating that mite of a lad, perched upon a box to bring his head above the frame, in the mysteries of the printer's case, that later he would develop into a 'Petroleum V. Nasby;' but he did."

James S. Leach, a representative Cortland county Free Soiler of that period and a lawyer of considerable prominence, now a resident of Syracuse. He kept the paper about a year; but the Free Soil movement was already doomed, and Mr. Leach sold the establishment to two young men named Quimby and Hyatt, from Ithaca. Their ambition in the newspaper line was apparently soon satiated, for, in 1851, Mr. Crouch, now an accomplished printer and able writer, bought the concern, which he conducted with ability and success until August, 1855, when he sold to Edwin F. Gould. Under Mr. Crouch's direction the *Democrat* became one of the leading country weeklies of that political creed in the State. He is now the editor and publisher of the *Kingston Argus*, which is also an excellent journal. At about the time when Mr. Crouch sold the *Democrat* the Know-Nothing excitement was at its height, and Mr. Gould soon changed the name of the paper to the *Cortland American*, and devoted it to the interests of the new party. Mr. Gould published the paper for about two years; but it was finally throttled by the death of the Know-Nothing organization, and the Democrats were for a brief time without an organ in the county.

Soon after the *American* ceased to exist a young man named J. D. Robinson established the *Cortland Gazette*, purchasing the material of the defunct paper; this was in 1857; he continued its publication until the spring of 1858, when he sold out to John R. Beden. A few months later it passed into the hands of C. P. Cole. The *Gazette* was, of course, Democratic in politics; was a four-page paper, seven columns to the page and $1 a year; its circulation within the first few years of its existence was about 500. The office was in the third story of the Dickson (now Keator) Block, which building seems always to have possessed an attraction for printing establishments. Mr. Cole was a practical printer, a writer of considerable ability and had gained a little editorial experience on the Syracuse *Courier*. He improved his paper, added to his job printing material, increased the circulation of the *Gazette* to about 1,000 copies and for a time had a good paying business.

We must now note the founding of a new paper which was eventually consolidated with the *Gazette*. In the year 1858 Messrs. E. D. Van Slyke, now publisher of the Hamilton *Democratic Republican*, and P. H. Bateson started the *Republican Banner* in Cortland village. Their expressed object was to give the people a journal which should be free from the dictation of the politicians of the county and the columns of which should always be open to the respectable discussion of any topic of interest, even though the publishers did not agree with the sentiments of the writers. Mr. Van Slyke was, at the time the *Banner* was started, a law student in the office of R. Holland Duell. Mr. Bateson was a graduate of Cortland Academy in Homer, and also came to Mr. Duell's office to commence the study of the law. The two young men became intimately acquainted and their newspaper enterprise was the sequel. The capital of the firm was, by dint of considerable exertion, raised to exactly five dollars, and the office was established in some unfinished rooms in Mr Van Slyke's dwelling on the corner of Greenbush and what was then called Venette street. The two prospective publishers walked to McGrawville and bought of Abram Pryne the material of the *Central Reformer*, which had just departed its newspaper existence, paying for it mainly with properly secured notes; the price paid was $500. The first number of the paper appeared on the 1st of September, 1858, and was successfully brought to the notice of

the Cortland public (or the publishers, at least, were) by the issue of an extra announcing the laying of the Atlantic Cable, the news of which had to be brought from Syracuse on the cars, something like half an hour before the *Gazette* issued its extra.

On account of ill health Mr. Bateson remained with his partner but about six months; he subsequently became a Universalist preacher. After about five months the *Banner* office was removed to the second story of Barnard's Block, where the Dexter House now stands. The *Banner* was a success, as such ventures are commonly considered, and shortly after its removal, S. G. Hitchcock, an excellent practical printer, now living in Syracuse, bought a half interest with Mr. Van Slyke, and in the course of a year a power press was added. Mr. Hitchcock, desiring to make a western tour, sold his interest to his partner in 1860 or 1861. This interest was transferred within a few weeks to A. M. Ford, now publisher of the *Dryden Herald*.

When the 76th Regiment was organized in Cortland, in the autumn of 1861, Mr. Van Slyke's patriotism prompted him to join it; he accordingly made an arrangement with Mr. Cole, by which the latter was to buy the *Banner* establishment, consolidate it with the *Gazette*, and change the politics to Republican and the name of the paper to the *Gazette and Banner*. Mr. Cole conducted the paper with varying success until his death in April, 1869. After passing through the hands of his uncle, J. V. P. Gardner, of Utica, the establishment was purchased by Wm. H. Livermore, who changed the name of the paper to the *Cortland Weekly Journal*, issuing the first number under the new title on the 20th of May, 1869. The paper was then an eight-column sheet, but was enlarged to nine columns on the 18th of August, 1870. On the 7th of July, 1870, Mr. Livermore began the publication of the *Homer Herald*, similar in size and appearance to the *Journal;* it was printed in the Cortland office, but devoted to the interests of the town of Homer and largely circulated in that part of the county. Mr. Livermore made a good newspaper and built up a successful business, which he carried on until January 11th, 1872, when he sold the establishment to Edward and Emma Molloy, of South Bend, Ind.; they stopped the publication of the *Herald*, continuing the *Journal* until May 18th following, when it was sold to Wesley Hooker, consolidated with the *Cortland Standard*, purchased by him of F. G. Kinney, and named the *Cortland Standard and Journal*. Mr. Livermore is now in Washington in the employ of the government.

The first number of the *Cortland Standard* was issued by F. G. Kinney on the 29th of June, 1867. Mr. Kinney is a practical printer of long experience and an able writer. In his salutatory he assumed it as a matter of general expression that there should be published in the shire town a paper which should more exactly meet the views and reflect the sentiments of the people of the county; he expressed his determination to make a family paper the character of which should be unexceptionable, at the same time that it was outspoken and manly on all the political and moral questions of the day. On account of delay in getting his power press, the first few numbers of the paper were taken to Homer and printed; the first number was sent out free, and two weeks then intervened before the regular publication began. Mr. Kinney made an excellent paper and continued its publication until the 1st of May, 1872, when he sold to Wesley Hooker, as above stated, he having at the same time purchased the establishment of the *Cortland Journal* and the defunct *Homer Herald*. The whole was consolidated in one concern,

making one of the most complete country printing establishments in Central New York. Mr. Hooker stated in his introductory editorial that in his opinion Cortland village needed just two papers and no more — one for each political party; said he: "More than two are an unnecessary tax on the community, and an imposition and burden it is very likely to resent and refuse to carry." Mr. Hooker had profited by an experience of twenty years as a printer, business manager and editor, and he quickly made his influence felt for the good of the paper. He said that while it would be Republican in politics, it should be independent and fearless in its course, not hesitating to criticise and admonish when it seemed necessary; and above all, it would not be the organ of any faction. This course he consistently followed until, on the 1st of April, 1876, when he sold his establishment to the Hon. William H. Clark, of Wayne county, who is the present proprietor and editor. Mr. Clark assumed his important position while yet a young man. He was a graduate of Union College, and had studied law and was admitted to the bar six years before he came to Cortland, which period he had spent in the practice of his profession in Wayne county. His introductory editorial was a brief, pertinent and graceful statement of what he should labor to accomplish — the perpetuation of the high position and excellent reputation then enjoyed by the *Standard and Journal*, and the advancement of the interests of the Republican party. Since his proprietorship began Mr. Clark has greatly improved his paper and his establishment generally; among the changes made are the curtailing of the name of the paper to the *Cortland Standard* and its enlargement to nine columns to the page, making it one of the largest and most attractive country weeklies in the State. Up to the time of Mr. Hooker's withdrawal the office was located in the third story of the block on the corner of Main and Orchard streets. But the quarters there, although better than had ever before been enjoyed by a Cortland newspaper, were too crowded for the fully equipped establishment, and Mr. Clark removed to A. Mahan's building on Court street, on the 1st of January, 1879, occupying the first floor and a portion of the basement. This gave much more commodious accommodations; but the immediate addition of new presses and a large quantity of other new material soon filled the new quarters to such an extent that more room became almost an imperative necessity. This state of affairs led Mr. Clark to embark with others in the erection of the splendid new brick "Standard Block" on the corner of Main and Tompkins streets, into which the office was removed on the 1st of May, 1883, where the amplest accommodations had been especially prepared for it. At the time of his removal to the new building Mr. Clark published a valuable supplement to the *Standard*, from which much of the data for this chapter is derived. In it we find the following description of the establishment, the importance and completeness of which entitles it to a place in these pages: —

"The practical experience gained in managing a printing office had taught us what its needs were, and it was the intention to meet them in the most thorough and satisfactory manner. It is with pleasure that we are able to say that two months of work in the new office have not called attention to a single material point in which the arrangement could be improved.

"The new quarters of the *Standard* are located on the first floor and basement of the southwest store in the Standard Building. In front is Tompkins street, and at the side a wide alley belonging to the building, which can never be obstructed, and the space beyond, which is still open. The frontage on Tompkins street is twen-

ty-seven and a half feet, and the depth is about sixty-three feet. The business office is on Tompkins street, and is a room thirteen feet deep by nineteen feet long. It has a glass front reaching from the floor to the ceiling, and is handsomely finished on the other three sides in western chestnut, with a paneled ceiling, painted in particolors. The floor is of cherry and maple; the furniture of ash, with the tops of the desks and counter of polished cherry. A portion of the furniture, though ordered, is not yet completed, but we expect will be in place very soon. From the walls, the faces of Emerson, Bryant, Lowell, Longfellow, Whittier and Holmes, look down, in the handsome *Atlantic* portraits, appropriately framed, and a fine steel engraving of Garfield bears them worthy company. In addition to the door communicating with the composing room, the office is connected with this room by a sliding window at the end of the main desk, and is in communication with the press room on the floor below by means of a speaking tube and call bell. It is also connected with the Cortland and Homer Telephone Exchange. As a business office, we believe it is unequaled for beauty and convenience in any other printing establishment in the country, outside of the cities.

"Opening out of this office, and lighted by a long and large window, is the private editorial room, occupying the remainder of the Tompkins street front, and finished like the business office, in western chestnut. Both of these rooms are heated and ventilated by steam, the direct and indirect systems of radiation being combined, and the entrance of fresh, warm air, and the escape of bad air are so arranged that the atmosphere of the rooms may be changed entirely every fifteen minutes. This work, as well as the steam heating in the composing and press rooms, and in other parts of the building, was done by Messrs. Bates & Johnson, who have establishments in New York, Albany and Syracuse, and enjoy the reputation of being among the most thorough, intelligent and trustworthy of steam engineers. In the rear of the business and editorial rooms is the composing and job room, where all the newspaper and job work is set up, and all the lighter job work printed on the Gordon presses. The room is about fifty feet long, well ventilated, and filled with light from five large west windows, reaching from the ceiling nearly to the floor, and double glass doors with glass transom. Under the care of the efficient foreman, Mr. H. G. Joy, the room is a model of neatnesss and good order, as well as a most cheerful and healthful place for labor. Underneath the business, editorial, composing and job rooms, and running back the full sixty-three feet from Tompkins street, is the press room, where the cylindar newspaper and job presses are located, together with the 'Otto Silent Gas Engine,' which furnishes power to run the entire machinery of the office. The presses are set upon heavy frames of cedar, fastened down by bolts running to the base of stone walls, which are sunk into the earth from two to two and a half feet, giving foundations which are as solid as rock.

"This room, like the composing room, is floored with Georgia pine, and is ceiled both above and on the sides. It is high, excellently lighted by eight large windows, and by double glass doors, with glass transom, and is also well ventilated.

"In the rear portion of the room are located large stock closets, with sliding shelves for book-paper, etc., and beside them stands a large case of twenty-eight drawers, twenty-three by thirty inches each, in which are kept the cardboard, and flat papers used in the job department. Facing these is the paper-cutter, and the table on which rests the card-cutter. The ruled papers, note heads, bill heads, etc., etc., and cut cards are kept in the composing and job room above, ready at hand for printing on the Gordon presses.

"All of the shafting and pulleys for the various presses is suspended from the ceiling of the basement, belts running through the ceiling and the floor above, and connecting with the presses in the composing room. All of the presses are connected with cone pulleys, giving any rate of speed desired.

"The store room, opening out of the *Standard* press room, is a large cellar, extending under about half of the post-office, in which is located the low-pressure boiler which furnishes steam for heating. A considerable portion of this cellar is floored, and the room is so light and dry that it furnishes a most convenient store room for

news and other papers in bundles, and for the various articles about a printing office which it is desirable to have on hand, and not desirable to have in the way.

"The space afforded by this room, combined with the other rooms above described, is *about three times* that of the old office in the third story of the Moore block, which the *Standard* occupied on the first of May, 1876, while the facilities of the office for turning out work have increased in nearly the same proportion."

The direct predecessor of the *Cortland County Democrat* was the *Cortland Democrat*, which was started in the year 1864, by H. G. Crouch, of whom particular mention has already been made, and M. P. Callender; this sheet may, perhaps, be called a revival of the *Democrat* which Mr. Crouch had previously published, and which had passed into the hands of C. P. Cole, to become transformed into a Republican journal. The *Democrat* was purchased in 1866 by C. A. Kohler, a native Swede, who was possessed of a good deal of natural ability and a sterling Democrat. It was while Mr. Kohler was conducting the paper that Benton B. Jones took the first steps in the editorial profession, which has since that time almost entirely engrossed his attention. He was then a young lawyer in the village of Cortland, who was gradually acquiring an excellent practice, when Mr. Kohler called on him to assist in the promulgation of Democratic doctrine through the columns of the *Democrat*. So well did Mr. Jones fulfill the mission that a large share of the editorial work thereafter fell upon his shoulders. L. S. Crandall bought Mr. Kohler's interest in 1866, or '67, Mr. Jones still continuing to do a share of the editorial labor until 1868, when he bought out Mr. Crandall. In assuming the responsibility of conducting the organ of the Democratic party in the county, Mr. Jones wrote as follows: —

"In accepting the duties consequent upon such assumption, we feel constrained to ask the co-operation and assistance of all Democrats in our efforts to make the *Democrat* a first class family newspaper. Our political affinities being so well known throughout the county, it is, perhaps, unnecessary for us to assert that we have always supported to the best of our ability, in prosperity and adversity alike, those grand old Democratic principles which lie at the very foundation of our government, and that, as the editor of this paper, we shall continue to support those principles. We promise to do our level best to sow the seeds of discord and dissatisfaction in the ranks of the dominant party, while at the same time we do everything in our power to strengthen the Democratic party."

These outspoken promises Mr. Jones has fulfilled, as far as he has been able, for the past sixteen years.[1] He enlarged his paper from the first, at the same time advancing the subscription price to $2, and he so conducted the *Democrat* that it was given a cordial support. The political situation in the county during the most of the period of Mr. Jones's proprietorship of the paper has been such that he could expect very little support of a public character, and he has received about what he expected; but he has kept on in the path marked out in his introductory editorial and has won the respect even of those who do not agree with the political sentiments of his journal. He has from time to time added to his office outfit, in the way of new and improved machinery, types, etc., until it is second to none in its capacity to turn out excellent work of all kinds. Mr. Jones moved the office (which had been previously located in the Squires Block, and over the present store of Wm. Riley, on Main street,) to the Keator Block, and in 1871 to the old Eagle Block, which has given way to the new Squires Building. In 1877 he fitted up commo-

[1] From May 1st, 1874, until August, 1875, the *Democrat* was in the hands of Roberts & Lamont and David Tallmadge; but it came back into Mr. Jones's ownership at the latter date.

dious quarters in the building since occupied by him on West Court street.

The third newspaper published at the present time in Cortland village, the *Cortland News*, was first issued on the 25th of June, 1880, by C. H. Buell and E. M. Lansing. The former was a native of Truxton, but resided for some time in New York city, where he had been in different ways connected with newspapers. Mr. Lansing remained in the establishment but a short time. Mr. Buell labored under many embarrassments, as is often the case in similar undertakings, but his energy and perseverance made his paper a success. In the celebrated Normal School controversy he supported with ability the views of the Local Board and Dr. Hoose, which finally prevailed.

In January, 1882, the *News* establishment was taken by F. G. Kinney, who has conducted it since that date. The causes leading to the establishment of this paper are given as the opposition offered by the other Republican paper (the *Standard*) to the policy of the Republican leaders, and its opposition to the action of the Local Board of the Normal School in its adherence to the employment of Professor J. H. Hoose as principal, against the efforts of the superintendent of public instruction, who desired Prof. Hoose's removal. With these controvesies this work need not be concerned. The *News*, as stated, took strong ground in favor of the retention of Dr. Hoose as principal of the school, and a long controversy ensued between the two Republican journals; at the same time the dissensions in the ranks of the Republican party in the county, with the aggressive action of the prohibition faction, opened the way to a Democratic success in the fall of 1882, when that party elected its county judge and surrogate, district attorney and county clerk — a very unusual occurrence in Cortland county. The office of the *News* has always been located over No. 13 Main street.

The *Marathon Independent* was established in Marathon in 1870, by Wallace Kelley, acting for B. B. Jones, of the *Cortland Democrat*. A paper called the *Marathon Mirror* had previously, in 1862, been started in that village by G. A. Dodge, who transferred it in the following year to P. D. & C. A. Van Vredenburg; they abandoned it after a few years. In 1868 C. D. Smith revived it as the *Marathon News;* he conducted it about a year when it was suspended. The material of this establishment was bought by Mr. Kelley, and on the 19th of July, 1870, he issued the first number of the *Independent*. The paper was conducted one year by Kelley, who, during that period, was acting as the agent of Mr. Jones; at the end of that time he purchased the establishment and conducted it successfully until 1876. He was a man of great industry and a good printer, qualifications which enabled him in a comparatively contracted field to build up a successful and profitable business, where many others would have failed.

In the fall of 1875 Mr. Kelley was attacked by consumption which so impaired his strength that in June, 1876, he was forced to betake himself to the Adirondacks. He placed his business in the care of Ed. L. Adams, who had just completed his apprenticeship in the office. Returning in the fall, Mr. Kelley gave up hope of recovery and offered his office for sale. It was purchased on the first of December of that year by Charles A. Brooks, an employee of Mr. Kelley, and A. H. Day, a business man of Marathon. This firm employed Mr. Adams as editor of their paper and conducted it successfully until May 1st, 1878. At this date Mr. Adams had only just reached man's estate, and he purchased the interest of Mr. Day, the firm becoming

Brooks & Adams. This continued until January 1st, 1880, at which time Mr. Adams bought his partner's interest and has since owned the establishment alone.

When Mr. Kelley issued the first number of the *Independent* the office was equipped with a hand press and an old-fashioned job press. Under Mr. Adams's efficient management it has become a first-class establishment; has a Campbell cylinder press, two power job presses, a power paper cutter, steam-engine, with an excellent outfit of other material. More than two hundred new subscribers have been added to the list in the year 1883. The first issue was a six-column folio; it was enlarged in 1871 to seven columns, and again enlarged in 1881 to eight columns; in June, 1883, it was changed into a five-column quarto and otherwise improved. Mr. Adams has won an extended reputation as a humorist, based upon the establishment of a column devoted to that class of writing in 1879, and has in many ways shown himself to be an enterprising journalist.

Early in June, 1878, the *McGrawville Sentinel* issued its first number, a youth of eighteen years, named Wm. A. Huntington, being the proprietor. The office was located on the first floor above the ground floor of what is now known as the Empire House, but at that time was commonly called the Empire Block. The paper was then a five column folio and its subscription list was not very large. The motto adopted and since retained was, "For the public good." The industry and diligence of the young proprietor soon increased the circulation of his paper and it was changed to a six-column folio. The first copy was printed on a small army press; but this was soon changed for a Washington hand press and in December, 1882, a Guernsey cylinder press was substituted and is still in use. In the following year the office was removed to the Frieson Block, and at the expiration of its second year to the Graves Building, where it now is. Mr. Huntington conducted the paper for five years, when he disposed of the property to the Sentinel Publishing Company, consisting of E. P. and J. R. Fancher. For the last three years the paper has been a seven column folio. Its circulation is increasing, its list now exceeding 300. Terms, $1.00.

The *Otselic Valley Register*.—This paper was established at Pitcher, Chenango county, on the 8th of April, 1874, by J. E. Lyons, who, after publishing it about four months, suddenly disappeared and has never since been heard from. The paper was then taken in hand by a stock company and was conducted by Eneas Fenton for a period of about four months, and then disposed of to John Henry Graves; he continued its publication for about two years and then removed the establishment to Cincinnatus, where he shortly afterward sold it to D. V. Joyner. He enlarged the sheet to a seven column folio, and on the 3d day of November, 1879, sold out to Will O. Greene, who immediately began making improvements both in the paper and the methods of carrying on the business. The paper soon assumed a position with the other local journals of the county and vicinity. Mr. Greene still conducts the establishment with satisfaction to his readers and profit to himself. The *Register* is still a seven column paper and is independent in politics.

The history of the newspapers now living in Cortland county being concluded, it remains for us to devote a few words to those ventures in journalism that have gone before. Among these was the *True American and Religious Examiner*, which was started in Cortland village in 1845, by C. B. Gould. The following year it passed into the hands of S. R. Ward, a negro of much natural talent, who changed its name to the

True American. Ward published it about two years, when it was suspended.

The *Liberty Herald* was put forth in 1845, or about that date, by James W. Eels and Nathaniel Goodwin. The former was a printer in R. A. Reed's office and the latter a member of the floating population who lived at Little York, near the residence of Orrin Cravath, a prominent abolitionist and master of one of the stations on the "Underground Railroad," to which mystic thoroughfare many of the slaves who escaped to Canada were indebted for their freedom. The *Liberty Herald* and other anti-slavery publications were sent to Mr. Cravath, who placed them in the hands of Goodwin; he traveled about the county selling and giving them away. There were then several hundred abolitionists in the county; among them a few hundred dollars were raised, a second-hand outfit purchased and the *Herald* went forth on its mission. The office was in the "Elder" store building and John Thomas, one of the staunchest and most uncompromising abolitionists, was the editorial writer. His effusions have been characterized, by one who read them, as "red hot." But the cause was not then a popular one, and it requires money to print newspapers. Eels soon retired from the concern and his place was taken for a time by a Dr. Stedman, from Tioga county. But this journal, like the other abolition organ before alluded to, passed into the hands of Samuel R. Ward, the black orator and preacher. It was finally suspended and the material taken to De Ruyter. Such were the earnest and unselfish efforts of the men of Cortland county who strove in the cause of human freedom — a cause which in later years triumphed and brought honor to all who labored in it. The *Morning Star* was published in McGrawville in 1850 and was probably the successor (whether immediate or not, we are not informed) of the *McGrawville Express*, which was started by A. H. Benedict, who afterward became a well-known teacher of penmanship in this section. But the *Star* ceased to shine after a comparatively brief existence, being followed by the *Central Reformer*, which was published in 1858, in connection with the Central College at McGrawville.

The *South Cortland Luminary* had a brief existence about the year 1839, and was published by M. Reynolds. It was removed to Fayetteville, Onondaga county, by Hon. Wesley Bailey, and its name changed to the *Fayetteville Luminary*.

A very small candidate for public favor was started in Cortland on the 9th of October, 1820, by T. J. Sutherland and D. Hills. The subscription price was only 50 cents, but that was probably enough, as there were only two columns on each of the four pages of the paper. It was called the *Village Museum*. The salutatory was as ponderous as the paper was insignificant; it began: "In viewing the present advancements which have been made in the progress of science and literature in this place, we have ventured to introduce this little miscellaneous stranger," etc. Readers were assured that political discord would be excluded from its columns; "neither will we disgrace our pages with slanderous productions of miscreants." Then followed an apology for the youth of the publishers. The *Museum* failed to entertain after a few months.

The *New York Confederacy* was a successor of the *Dryden News* and was published in both Dryden and Cortland in 1857, and a few succeeding years by G. Z. House.[1]

[1] Other short-lived journals are referred to in the history of the towns.

CHAPTER XV.

THE BENCH AND BAR OF CORTLAND COUNTY.

The Old English Courts — Establishment of Courts in America — Creation of the Court of Appeals — The Supreme Court — Its Judges and their Duties — The Court of Common Pleas and the County Court — Justice's Courts and Courts of Special Sessions — Judicial Offices — The Bar of Cortland County — Its Early Eminent Members — Roll of Attorneys' Oaths — The Present Bar — Biographical Notes.

ALTHOUGH as a distinct county our records are recent, the early history of our bench and bar takes us back to judicial systems very different from those with which we are now familiar, and very similar to those of England. For the British governors, after the peace of Westminster, introduced such of the courts of the mother country from time to time as seemed adapted to the new colonies; and although our constitution of 1777 abolished such as were hostile to the democratic sentiments of the new era, it preserved with considerable entirety the legal fictions and the judicial systems of its inheritance. It was thus that our new country found in existence such courts as the Common Pleas, Chancery, Court of Probate, Court for the Trial of Impeachments and the Correction of Errors, and others long since abolished, or merged in those of the present day. The old Court of Assizes, and Court of Oyer and Terminer had already passed away, and the federal constitution had taken from the State the Court of Admiralty; but most of those mentioned above still attested our early relations with the complex systems of England.

The following brief history of the courts of our State, at the time when Cortland county was formed, is made necessary by the relations which some of the leading members of our bar have sustained to those tribunals.

During the exciting times succeeding the administration of the tyrannical Governor Andros, and just after the execution of Leisler and the arrival of Governor Sloughter, and while the new charter of liberties was agitating our colony, the Court for the Correction of Errors and Appeals was established. It consisted of the governor and council, its powers resembling our present court of final resort. The revolution necessitated a change, which gave rise to the Court for the Trial of Impeachments and the Correction of Errors, which was still in existence when our county was organized. The constitution of 1846, which made so many changes in our judicial systems, entirely remodeled this court. It divided it, in fact, creating the Court of Appeals in place of the Court for the Correction of Errors, and leaving the Court for the Trial of Impeachments still composed of the Senate and its president, together with the judges of the new court. The convention of 1867–68 reorganized the Court of Appeals, and in 1869 the people ratified the change, which resulted in the present court of final resort.

On account of the great mass of accumulated business, a Commission of Appeals was created in 1870, continuing until 1875, possessing powers very similar to those of its sister court, and designed to relieve the latter. With it, one of our early bar, Judge Gray, was connected as a prominent member.

The Supreme Court, as it now exists, is a combination of very diverse elements. The Court of Chancery, the Court of Exchequer, the Court of Oyer and Terminer, the Probate Court, the Circuit Court and

the Supreme Court proper, have all combined to make up this important branch of our system. But during our early county history several of these courts existed independently of each other, some of our early lawyers being amongst their leading members. The Court of Chancery, which had been organized when the Court of Assizes was abolished in 1683, was the beginning of the equity branch of our present Supreme Court. It was reorganized shortly after the Revolution and, with some slight modifications by our constitution of 1821, and by subsequent enactments, it continued until 1846, when it merged into the new Supreme Court. Its descendant is our Special Term, the presiding judge representing the vice-chancellor, the duties of chancellor being filled by the General Term bench. The Court of Exchequer, having been erected in 1685, was made a branch of the old Supreme Court just after the Revolution, and so continued until finally abolished in 1830. In our earliest colonial history there had been a Court of Oyer and Terminer, but it was discontinued during the time of King William, its name, however, surviving to designate the criminal part of the Circuit. This brings us to the old Supreme and Circuit Courts with which the Court of Chancery united under the constitution of 1846 to complete the principal branch of our present system. At the time the history of Cortland county began the Supreme Court of this State consisted of five justices. It had been the practice to hold four terms a year, two in Albany and two in New York. But towards the close of the last century the Circuit system was established, somewhat on the plan of that of England. It was enacted that the judges should, during their vacations, hold courts in the various counties of the State, and return the proceedings to the Supreme Court when it convened again, when they should be recorded and judgment rendered. Just before the separation of Cortland county from Onondaga this system was simplified by the division of the State into four districts. To each of these districts was assigned a judge, whose duty it was to hold Circuits in each of the counties therein, at least once in each year. It had already been enacted that the Courts of Oyer and Terminer (the criminal part of the present Supreme Court) should be held at the same time and place as the Circuit, and should consist of the Circuit judge, assisted by two or more of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the county. This Circuit system was very similar to the present, except that our Special Terms are substituted in place of the Court of Chancery. After the constitution of 1821 the State was divided, as at present, into eight judicial districts, each being provided with a Circuit judge, in whom were vested certain equity powers, subject to appeal to the Chancery; while the Supreme Court proper held much the same position as our present General Term. In 1846 the new constitution abolished the Court of Chancery, giving the powers theretofore held by it to the Supreme Court, which it reorganized substantially as it exists to-day. Such is the history of the higher courts of this county and State.

The system of local judicature has also changed to correspond with that of the State at large. The Court of Common Pleas, organized contemporaneously with the colonial Court for the Correction of Errors and Appeals, has given way to the County Court; while the offices of county judge and surrogate have been combined where the county population does not exceed forty thousand. During the eighteenth century the Court of Common Pleas consisted of a first judge assisted by two or more associates, all of whom were appointed by the governor. Its powers were



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very similar to those of the present County Court, the associate judges corresponding to the justices of sessions on our present criminal bench. The constitution of 1846 abolished the Court of Common Pleas, and created the County Court and Court of Sessions as they exist to-day. A list of the first judges of the Court of Common Pleas and of the County Court appears in another place in this work, together with those of the surrogates and district attorneys of this county.

The Surrogate's Court has changed less than any of the others during the period covered by the history of this county. In the earliest times, even before the Dutch supremacy gave way to the English, there had been a short-lived Orphan Court. Then the English government introduced the Prerogative Court, which, in turn, gave way to the Court of Probates after the Revolution. Surrogates were then appointed in each county, having much the same powers as at present, from whose judgments appeals to the Court of Probates lay. This was the system in operation during the first fifteen years of our county history. In 1823 the Court of Chancery took the place of the Court of Probates, as to appeals, but the office of surrogate remained as before. This continued until the constitution of 1846, when, in this county, amongst others, the powers and duties of the surrogate were vested in the county judge, as at present.

Our Justice's Courts and Courts of Special Sessions have remained substantially unchanged since the colonial period, and require no extended history.

As of interest in connection with our judicial system, the office of district attorney may be mentioned as one which has undergone considerable modification. Before our county was organized, the State had been divided into seven districts for each of which was an assistant attorney-general, whose duties were very similar to those of our public prosecutors to-day. Indeed, the name now given to that officer arises from the fact that he was formerly the district attorney-general. The present office, as distinct from the attorney-generalship, was created just before our county organization, the number of districts being finally increased to thirteen. At first Cortland county was in the ninth district with Cayuga, Chenango, Madison and Onondaga, until 1817, when, for a year, it was in the thirteenth, with Broome, Seneca and Tompkins counties. Since 1818 each county has had its own district attorney, the name still being preserved in its original form. The list herein of those who have held this office dates from that year.

The offices of county judge, district attorney and first judge of the Court of Common Pleas have, with one or two exceptions, been filled by attorneys at law. Not so with that of surrogate, however, for in the early history of the county, and until the great changes of 1846, it was the rule that laymen should fill that office, as well as those of county clerk, sheriff and others of lesser rank; it should also be mentioned that for some time after the constitution of 1846, so great was the amount of law business in this vicinity, that general terms of the Supreme Court were held at Cortland; an honor which has not been ours, however, since the last war. Such has been the history of the courts of Cortland county; a development of a practical, complete system from the unnecessary, antiquated methods inherited from Great Britain.

Our county organization was scarcely complete until the year 1810, when, against much opposition, the county seat was located at Cortland. Homer and Port Watson, the latter being then the chief commercial point in this section, had both aspired to that honor, as elsewhere detailed in

these pages. But the energy of Jonathan Hubbard and a few others decided the matter, and what was thereafter known as Court-House Hill was selected as the site for the county buildings. The court house was completed three years thereafter, and, with the jail adjoining, was used for a quarter of a century, a period of great legal interest, as will be seen as we proceed. In 1838 the Supervisors, unwisely enough, selected the present site, and erected the edifices now in use. It may be interesting to know that when they took the warranty deed of the present court-house lot from John J. Speed, in 1837, Speed deeded to them twice as much land as he had title to, and described it in such a way that by no possibility can the boundaries be ascertained, even were the title perfect.

The history of the bar of Cortland county presents the names of men whose reputation has not been confined to this section, nor to this State alone; names, however, mingled with the naturally large number of those whose only records are their scrawling signatures in the county archives. There is, in the clerk's office, a very interesting document which acts as an admirable guide in research relative to the early bar of the county. It consists of a musty roll of yellow, ragged paper, much the worse for dust and vermin, the sheets being fastened together by wafers, like some ancient chronicle. It has a veritably antique appearance, despite the fact that it is only three-quarters of a century old. It is interesting because it contains the official oaths of all of the attorneys of our Court of Common Pleas from the spring of 1808, down through the next forty years. Some thirty-five feet of this roll contain in the neighborhood of a hundred and fifty names, all but about a dozen long ago forgotten. Among the first eighteen signatures is that of Townsend Ross, a man of considerable prominence in his time, both in legal affairs and in the other walks of civil life. He was one of the assistant judges of Common Pleas for a time, as well as surrogate for some years, besides which his name appears in many other capacities in the early records. The name of the afterwards prominent Victory Birdseye also appears among the early ones. He, although a resident of Pompey, was for some time intimately connected with our courts as a prominent practitioner, and his eminent success in later life is well known by many now living in the county, his record as a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1821, of two Congresses, of several sessions of the Assembly and of the Senate, being of the highest character.

In old fashioned English script, opposite the date, "October 18, 1809," is the name of Glen Cuyler, the same who had already been surrogate of Cayuga several years, and was to be several years to come. His descendants are still well known in this vicinity, among his grandchildren being the late Mrs. R. H. Duell.

Although he was not an active practitioner, we find the name of Roswell Randall in the list, signed in a style the exact model of the penmanship of his son, sworn to in 1814, before Mead Merrill, a man likewise widely known in his day. Mr. Randall was a very active man, and one of the most public spirited citizens of that time. There is still preserved in the clerk's office, in a tattered condition, an old roll of official oaths, covering a period of ten years (1808–1818), very similar in appearance to the one heretofore described. Supplementing this is an ancient-appearing record book, with cover mostly gone, containing oaths of judges of the Common Pleas, justices, surrogates, officers of the militia, and numerous others, covering our first half century. And as an evidence of his popu-

larity and public spirit, the name of General Randall (as he was always called in later life) appears more frequently than any other in the long list.

Subscribed to the same oath as that of Roswell Randall is the well known signature of Henry Stephens, for many years one of the most prominent lawyers of Cortland county. Mr. Stephens had studied law with Eleazer Burnham, of Aurora, a man of wide reputation, both as an attorney and a publicist, and also with Glen Cuyler, of the same place, and consequently could boast of the best of legal training. He was a man of commanding presence, a strong man physically, as he was mentally and morally. Besides being for many years the first judge of Common Pleas in the county, and the great rival at the bar of Judge Nelson, he was a man of great public spirit, as was attested by his brilliant record in the Assembly, as president of the S. B. and N. Y. R. R. Company, as prime mover in founding the Agricultural Society, and in other important enterprises. Judge Stephens lived to a good old age, it being but a few years ago that he was seen on our streets. He was honored by the entire community, not only as among the best in his profession, but also because of his exemplary private life.

At this early period, the leading counselor of the county, and one whose opinions were also sought from distant parts of the State, was Oliver Wiswell. Although not widely known as a trial lawyer, he was a man of great energy and prominence in public matters, an able assistant judge of Common Pleas, and one whose legal opinions were highly esteemed. For some years he was a partner of Judge Stephens, and their names figure largely in the calendars of that time. They constituted the earliest, and, for a long time, the leading law firm in Cortland.

The old (then new) court-house on the hill witnessed one of the most celebrated trials in the history of the county, in 1817. There had been a severe political struggle between the Republicans and the Federals the fall previous, during which Dr. John Miller, of Truxton, then the leading physician of the county, had been the candidate of the former party for Member of Assembly. Among the leaders of the Federals was Mead Merrill, one of the most prominent men in the county, one who had held the office of surrogate and of county clerk for many years, and whose opinion, even in political strifes, was of no little weight. In the excitement of the campaign he had charged Miller with stealing, a political accusation which, like many since, was prompted far more by malice than by truth. The result was a slander suit, the defendant pleading the truth in justification. The cause came on for trial at the Cortland Circuit amidst the greatest excitement. For the plaintiff appeared Elisha Williams, then and thereafter the leader in the Assembly chamber, and the celebrated Thomas J. Oakley, soon after attorney-general and prominent Member of Congress; while the defendant, besides having the best local counsel, had secured the services of John W. Hurlbert, of Auburn, who at that time stood peerless as a trial lawyer in this part of the State. The hearing lasted several days, and has never since been equaled in Cortland in interest, nor in the display of legal and forensic talent. The result for the plaintiff was received by the Republicans as a great victory, and slander was not so popular for the next half century or more.

On the roll of attorneys' oaths, before mentioned, with the date January 1, 1816 (written, by the common January error, for 1817), appears the name of Samuel Nelson. By curious mistake, no jurat appears,

Hon. Joseph Phillips Kinney, LL.D., was born in Cortlandville, Cortland County, N. Y., on the 10th of March, 1808. His father, Joseph Kinney, was a native of Connecticut, and was born in Norwalk, Fairfield County, on the 4th of July, 1776. He was a descendant of Thomas Kinney, who was one of the first settlers of Norwalk, and who was a native of Wales. Joseph Kinney was a farmer, and was married in Norwalk, Conn., to Miss Sarah Phillips, a native of that place, and a descendant of Governor Phillips, of Massachusetts. They had a family of eight children, of whom Joseph P. was the youngest. In 1806 they removed to Cortlandville, Cortland County, N. Y., and settled on a farm. Here Mrs. Kinney died in 1809, and Mr. Kinney married Miss Lucy Phillips, who still survives, and resides in Cortland. Mr. Kinney died in 1811, leaving a widow and three children, — Joseph P., Sarah, and Lucy.

Joseph P. Kinney received a common-school education, and at the age of fifteen entered the office of Hon. Nathaniel Pitcher, of Cortland, as a student of law. He remained with Mr. Pitcher for three years, and then entered the office of Hon. Daniel Cady, of Johnstown, Fulton County, N. Y., where he completed his studies, and was admitted to the bar in 1829. He then opened an office in Cortland, and began the practice of his profession. In 1830 he was appointed surrogate of Cortland County, and held the office for four years. In 1834 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1835. In 1836 he was appointed by Governor Marcy first judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Cortland County, and held the office for seven years. In 1843 he was elected to the Senate of the State of New York, and served in that body for four years. In 1847 he was appointed by Governor Young one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1848 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1849. In 1851 he was appointed by Governor Hunt one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1852 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1853. In 1854 he was appointed by Governor Clark one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1855 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1856. In 1857 he was appointed by Governor King one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1858 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1859. In 1860 he was appointed by Governor Morgan one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1861 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1862. In 1863 he was appointed by Governor Seymour one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1864 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1865. In 1866 he was appointed by Governor Fenton one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1867 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1868. In 1869 he was appointed by Governor Hoffman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1870 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1871. In 1872 he was appointed by Governor Dix one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1873 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1874. In 1875 he was appointed by Governor Tilden one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1876 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1877. In 1878 he was appointed by Governor Robinson one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1879 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1880. In 1881 he was appointed by Governor Cleveland one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1882 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1883. In 1884 he was appointed by Governor Hill one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1885 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1886. In 1887 he was appointed by Governor Hill one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1888 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1889. In 1890 he was appointed by Governor Hill one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1891 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1892. In 1893 he was appointed by Governor Flower one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1894 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1895. In 1896 he was appointed by Governor Morton one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1897 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1898. In 1899 he was appointed by Governor Roosevelt one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1900 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1901. In 1902 he was appointed by Governor Odell one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1903 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1904. In 1905 he was appointed by Governor Hughes one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1906 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1907. In 1908 he was appointed by Governor Hughes one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1909 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1910. In 1911 he was appointed by Governor Dix one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1912 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1913. In 1914 he was appointed by Governor Sulzer one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1915 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1916. In 1917 he was appointed by Governor Whitman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1918 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1919. In 1920 he was appointed by Governor Smith one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1921 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1922. In 1923 he was appointed by Governor Miller one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1924 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1925. In 1926 he was appointed by Governor Smith one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1927 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1928. In 1929 he was appointed by Governor Roosevelt one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1930 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1931. In 1932 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1933 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1934. In 1935 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1936 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1937. In 1938 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1939 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1940. In 1941 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1942 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1943. In 1944 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1945 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1946. In 1947 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1948 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1949. In 1950 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1951 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1952. In 1953 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1954 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1955. In 1956 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1957 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1958. In 1959 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1960 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1961. In 1962 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1963 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1964. In 1965 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1966 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1967. In 1968 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1969 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1970. In 1971 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1972 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1973. In 1974 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1975 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1976. In 1977 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1978 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1979. In 1980 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1981 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1982. In 1983 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1984 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1985. In 1986 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1987 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1988. In 1989 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1990 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1991. In 1992 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1993 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1994. In 1995 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1996 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 1997. In 1998 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1999 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2000. In 2001 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2002 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2003. In 2004 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2005 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2006. In 2007 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2008 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2009. In 2010 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2011 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2012. In 2013 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2014 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2015. In 2016 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2017 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2018. In 2019 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2020 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2021. In 2022 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2023 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2024. In 2025 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2026 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2027. In 2028 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2029 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2030. In 2031 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2032 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2033. In 2034 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2035 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2036. In 2037 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2038 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2039. In 2040 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2041 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2042. In 2043 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2044 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2045. In 2046 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2047 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2048. In 2049 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2050 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2051. In 2052 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2053 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2054. In 2055 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2056 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2057. In 2058 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2059 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2060. In 2061 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2062 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2063. In 2064 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2065 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2066. In 2067 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2068 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2069. In 2070 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2071 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2072. In 2073 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2074 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2075. In 2076 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2077 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2078. In 2079 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2080 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2081. In 2082 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2083 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2084. In 2085 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2086 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2087. In 2088 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2089 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2090. 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In 2247 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2248 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2249. In 2250 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2251 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2252. In 2253 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2254 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2255. In 2256 he was appointed by Governor Lehman one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and served in that capacity for two years. In 2257 he was elected to the Assembly, and was re-elected in 2258. 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an act to surpress Dweling since the first day of July in the year of our lord one thousand Eight hundred and sixteen. Nor will I be so Consearned directly or indirectly in any Dwel During the continuance of the said act and whit an Inhabitant of this state."

Such was the anti-dueling oath of 1817, this particular one having been signed by Townsend Ross and others of his contemporaries.

Among those first admitted to practice at our Court of Common Pleas was Daniel Gott, then of Pompey, whose application was sworn to before "S. Nelson, comr." in 1819. Although not a member of our bar, Mr. Gott was an extensive practitioner in our courts, and was one of the leaders in Syracuse, where most of his life was passed.

Although it was the rule that the "first judge" of Common Pleas should be an attorney, it seems to have been broken in the case of John Keep, who held office for thirteen years, beginning in 1810, and continuing until the appointment of Wm. Mallory. He had been justice of the peace years before the organization of our county, and for that reason was considered best fitted for the new position. He was a man whom every one respected for his upright character and his unaffected concern for the public good.

The first attorney's oath in the handwriting of Samuel Hotchkiss, so long thereafter the clerk of the county, is subscribed, with an awkward attempt at a flourish, "H. Gray," and dated the last day of December, 1823. Next to Judge Nelson, Judge Gray has attained the highest eminence as a jurist of any member of the Cortland bar, having spent a large portion of his life upon the bench, and having been engaged in many of the most important cases of the last half century. He was born in 1802 in Washington county, and was graduated at Union College with the class of 1821. He had already studied law with Chief Justice Savage (with whom Nelson had studied before him), but soon after his graduation he came to Cortland and completed his preparatory work with Nelson & Dayton. Immediately following his admission to the bar Mr. Gray spent a few months in Dryden, Tompkins county, after which he returned to become a partner of Judge Ross in Homer. Subsequently his associations with our bar were severed in a great degree by his removal to Elmira, where he has since resided. In 1836 he was Member of Congress during one session, and five years later was district attorney of Chemung county. In 1846 he was made circuit judge of the Sixth Judicial District, which position he held until the Supreme Court was reorganized, when he continued on the bench for many years as one of its justices. When the Commission of Appeals, heretofore mentioned, was organized in 1870 he was one of its members, and so continued until the completion of its labors five years later. Judge Gray is a man of great judicial power, and is still one of the oldest and most honored of his profession in the State.

Prominent in our earlier annals was Major Adin Webb, who, though not a lawyer bred, was surrogate of the county for many years, and whose name has often appeared in this work. He was born in Connecticut in 1780, and as a young man came to Cazenovia, and later to Homer. In early life a teacher, later a merchant, he passed most of his maturer years in public service. He was surrogate from 1816 to 1823, and from 1840 to 1844, besides holding many other positions of responsibility. He is always spoken of as a man of the highest morality, whose exemplary life made him esteemed by all who knew him, as well in the strife of politics as in the more peaceful walks of life.

Mention should be made of Judge Ira Harris, late of Albany, now deceased, who, when a boy, was a law student in the office

of Judge Donnelly. When he was six years of age (in 1808) his family moved to Preble, where his boyhood was passed. At the age of twenty-two he was graduated from Union, three years after Judge Gray. After having studied in Cortland a short time, he went to Albany, and, like his distinguished companions, Judges Nelson and Gray, entered the office of Chief Justice Savage. From that time his residence continued to be at Albany until his death, a few years since. He was twice elected Member of Assembly, was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, and was once State Senator. His course as justice of the Supreme Court from 1847 until 1859 was marked by many of the ablest opinions to be found in our reports. At the beginning of the war he succeeded Mr. Seward in the United States Senate, where he proved himself the careful statesman as well as the profound jurist. His later years were devoted to the Albany Law School, of which he was for a long time dean, and the excellent reputation of which is largely due to his efforts.

Among the early lawyers and judges not heretofore mentioned, Edward C. Reed, Nathan Dayton and Joseph Reynolds were so prominent as to deserve mention. Mr. Reynolds, as a young man of twenty-four, came to Cortland county in 1809, his sole possessions consisting of two cows which he drove through the woods from Saratoga county. Purchasing a small farm in Virgil, on credit, he soon paid for it through his indomitable perseverance, and thereupon began one of the most successful careers which we have to record. As his relation to the bar was only through his judgeship, it is improper in this place to follow his course minutely; it is briefly outlined by saying that he held most of the important county offices in succession; that he was many years a judge of the Common Pleas, and for five years first judge (corresponding to county judge at this time). As presidential elector, congressman, and Member of Assembly he left a brilliant record, and at his death his large fortune and the high esteem in which he was held, stood as monuments to his ability and character.

Dayton was born in the same county as Reynolds (Washington) and was nine years his junior. He was admitted to the bar in 1819, settling in Truxton, whence he removed to Cortland to enter into partnership with Samuel Nelson. He was afterwards district attorney in our county, but in 1831 his connection with our bar was broken by his removal to Lockport. There he was soon elected first judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and in 1834 he became circuit judge. He died in 1859, one of the most respected citizens of Niagara county.

Edward C. Reed came from New Hampshire in 1816, and became a partner of Judge Ross in Homer. Although not an advocate of prominence, he twice filled the office of district attorney, and was a member of the Twenty-Second Congress, and was esteemed a wise and careful counselor.

Under the date of December 11th, 1827, on the roll of attorneys' oaths, appears the name of William Henry Shankland, and immediately following it, that of Horatio Ballard, each looking as if written but ten years since, so like are they to those of half a century later. Judge Shankland was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego county, in 1804. Four years later his parents, who were farmers of the well-to-do kind, moved to Onondaga county, where the boyhood and early manhood of the future judge was passed. Like so many other leading citizens of the second and third quarters of this century, he received his academic education at Pompey. This being completed, he entered the law office of Sanders Van Rensselaer, in the same county; but with a natural desire to revisit his native place he re-

turned to Otsego, and entered the office of Robert Campbell, a man of considerable prominence at that time at Cooperstown. His legal studies were completed at Pompey Hill, in the office of Daniel Gott, where he remained until his admission to the bar in 1827. He immediately opened an office in Cortland, where he soon secured an extensive practice, and where, five years later, he was appointed district attorney of the county. This office he filled longer than any other incumbent either before or since him, holding it for ten years (according to private records; six according to the State records). When the constitution of 1846 took effect, Mr. Shankland was appointed a justice of the Supreme Court of this district, and at the expiration of his short term, was re-elected, in 1849. While a member of this court, Judge Shankland was one of those who, under the constitution, formed part of the Court of Appeals bench, a position which he filled with the highest credit. His opinions, which are frequently met in the reports, are marked by great clearness, and are prized by the bar for their brevity and decision. From 1852 until 1866 Judge Shankland resided in Syracuse, but the later years of his life were passed in Cortland. Here he was engaged in extensive practice, with his son as partner, until old age compelled him to relinquish business a year or two before his death. At the age of seventy-nine, respected by all of the State bar and by all who knew him, in January, 1883, Judge Shankland's life closed; a life characterized by justice, integrity and all of the virtues of a Christian man.

Horatio Ballard was born in Homer in August, 1803, thus being the senior, by several months, of his confrère, Judge Shankland. He received his early education in the Pompey and Cortland Academies, both being well known in those days as very excellent schools. He studied law with Judge Stephens at Cortland, and with the Hon. Freeborn G. Jewett, at Skaneateles, the latter one of the most prominent of the lawyers, jurists and publicists of his time. It was while here that he met and conversed with Daniel Webster and Joseph Story, who were coaching through the State, a reminiscence which he delighted to recall in later life. Mr. Ballard was admitted to practice at the age of twenty-four, and for many years thereafter was the partner of Judge Stephens in Cortland. He very soon arose to prominence at the bar, and the firm of Stephens & Ballard became one of the best known in this part of the State. In 1842 Mr. Ballard succeeded Mr. Shankland as district attorney, and thereafter was delegate to the national convention that nominated Polk, and to the one that nominated Buchanan. In 1861 he was elected secretary of state, and in 1866 represented this county in the Assembly. The succeeding year he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, in which body he was one of the most active workers. Mr. Ballard died in 1879, the most widely known and respected man in our county; "A man of worth; a man of letters and of manners, too;" an honor to the bar, the county and the State.

In our list of county judges appears the name of Lewis Kingsley. He was born in Cincinnatus in 1823, where he afterwards studied law with Barak Niles, and later with Benjamin F. Rexford in Norwich. He was admitted to practice at Utica in 1846, and five years later was elected to the bench of the county. Before the war his relations with our bar were broken by his removal to Norwich, where he continued the practice of the law until his death, some years since.

Henry S. Randall's name is one of the most prominent in the catalogue of Cortland county attorneys. He was born in Madison county in 1811, and after preparation in

the Cortland and Geneva Academies, entered Union College, graduating with the class of 1830. He studied law with Judges Stephens and Shankland, and was admitted to the bar in 1834. We might end our sketch at this point, so far as relates to his history as a lawyer, since he never devoted any time to practice. But on account of his prominence as a citizen, we add the following brief summary. The year after his admission to the bar Mr. Randall was a member of the national convention which nominated Van Buren. It had been his intention to be a farmer in the highest and most scientific sense, and in this he succeeded, writing and editing several books and papers on the subject, and being among the foremost movers of great agricultural enterprises. In 1851 he was elected secretary of state, and in 1871 Member of Assembly, both times on the Democratic ticket. In 1853 Mr. Randall began the great work of his life, the biography of Thomas Jefferson. This was completed several years later, in three volumes, and ranks as one of the most carefully prepared and exhaustive biographies by any American author. For a long time he was president of the State and the National Wool Growers' Associations, and was the author of several important laws and works on the subject. He also devoted a large portion of his time to educational matters both in this county, and, while secretary of state, in the various other counties of New York. As a result of his zeal in this respect he was made president of the State Normal School at Cortland, and so continued until his death. He also occupied many other positions of trust, all of which he filled with eminent ability. More than any other man who has made Cortland his permanent home, Mr. Randall was characterized by the broadness of his views, and his energy in laboring for the public good. The friend of scholars and the companion of statesmen, he died in 1877, his loss mourned by the community that knew him, and the State and nation as well.

The most brilliant orator of thirty-five years ago, in Cortland, was Robert O. Reynolds. He was admitted to the bar in 1839, and soon thereafter removed to Chenango county, where he was extensively engaged in the practice of the law both in Norwich and in Greene. In 1843 he was elected district attorney of that county; but four years later he returned to Cortland, where the remainder of his life was spent. He was a fine trial lawyer, a fluent and witty speaker, but in later life a victim of intemperance, which ended in misery a brilliant and promising career.

Roswell K. Bourne was among the energetic lawyers of his time, and one of the comparatively small number whose descendants are still among us. He was born in Otselic, in 1813, and, indeed, spent most of his life in Chenango county. After completing his academic education at Cazenovia Seminary, he began the study of law with Barak Niles, in Cincinnatus. While studying for the bar he taught school in Pitcher Springs, and, on being admitted, opened an office there, where he remained until 1857 as an active practitioner. In that year he removed to Cincinnatus, where the remainder of his life was passed. Mr. Bourne is described by those who knew him as a very positive, energetic man, and a thoroughly public spirited citizen.

Augustus L. Ballard, a younger brother of Hon. Horatio Ballard, was a student in the office of the latter, and was admitted to the bar in 1844. His son entered into partnership with his brother, and for a number of years the firm of H. & A. L. Ballard was the leading one of the county. He was district attorney in 1847, a position to which his great abilities as a trial lawyer especially adapted him. He was a very

active, energetic man, a characteristic which probably hastened his death. He went west before the war, for the benefit of his health, and died while there.

Among the best criminal lawyers of the State was the late Hon. Milo Goodrich who, though not a member of our bar, had a large practice in our courts. He was admitted in 1845, in the same class with Judge Duell, at our present court-house. For many years thereafter he resided in Dryden, during which time he represented his district in Congress one term, and in the Constitutional Convention of 1867. He afterwards removed to Auburn where he died a few years since.

In 1847 James A. Schermerhorn was admitted to the bar at Cortland, where he opened an office on the site of the present edifice which bears his name. He did not enter extensively into the practice of the law, however, and subsequently spent but a small portion of his time in Cortland. Being a gentleman of wealth, he lived in retirement, in his early years traveling extensively both in Europe and America, and latterly residing in his beautiful home at Glen Haven.

Among the oaths and certificates of study, signed by applicants for admission, is one subscribed in a very correct, neatly shaded hand, in marked contrast to his well known signature of later years, by Hiram Crandall. Mr. Crandall was from Chenango county, but he received his early education in the Homer Academy, going thence into the office of Judge Shankland, where his legal studies were pursued until his admission to the bar in 1846. He then entered into partnership with his former legal instructor, with whom he remained until the latter was made member of the Supreme Court. He then entered into partnership with Robert O. Reynolds, with whom he remained nine years. He was for a time, before the war, the postmaster at Cortland village. Thereafter, in 1859, he was elected county judge and surrogate, which office he held for eight years until succeeded by Judge Smith. He was for many years, and until his death in 1881, attorney for the First National Bank in Cortland, and as such did a large office business, which was more to his taste than the labors of the court-room. He was one of the most genial, good natured of men, an ornament to the community as well as to the bar of the county.

Charles Foster was a native of Rensselaer county, and, like many others whose names appear herein, received his early education in Pompey Academy. He then entered Yale College, where he was graduated in 1844. After his graduation he entered the office of the Hon. Victory Birdseye, at Pompey. He also attended the New Haven Law School for a time, studied in Syracuse with B. D. & G. Noxon, and was finally admitted at Catskill General Term in 1847. He then returned to Pompey and entered the office of Daniel Gott, where he remained five years, removing thence to Cortland. Here he continued the practice of the law until his death some years since. During the latter part of his life he was a member of the prominent law firm of Duell & Foster. In 1869 he was elected to the Assembly, where he remained one winter. Mr. Foster was a very careful counselor, and a highly respected citizen.

The present bar of our county consists of between thirty-five and forty active practitioners. As has always been the case, however, the business is monoplized by a comparatively small number, say one-fourth of those whose names appear upon the rolls. It is judged impracticable at this time to give more than a passing glance at those who are still actively engaged in busi-

ness. While custom has decreed *de mortuis nil nisi bonum* concerning the living, it is impossible to write so uniformly, or to totally lay aside the bias which is necessary to personal acquaintance. The limits of this chapter, moreover, will not allow more than is here attempted, lest it encroach too much upon other portions of the work.

The senior member of the present bar is Hon. R. H. Duell, who was admitted in the same class with the late Milo Goodrich, in 1845. Judge Duell is a native of Herkimer county, having been born in the town of Warren in 1823. His academic education was completed at Syracuse, where, at the age of nineteen, he began the study of law in the office of Hon. Charles B. Sedgwick. Two years later, in July, 1845, he was admitted to the bar and began practice in the town of Fabius, Onondaga county. He moved thence to Cortland in 1847, to accept a partnership with Judge Stephens, and has since resided here. Judge Duell's political career has been remarkably successful from the first. In 1850 he was elected district attorney, and in 1855 county judge and surrogate. This office he resigned just before the close of his term, on account of his election as a member of the Thirty-sixth Congress. In 1870 he was a member of the national legislature, and and at the close of his term was appointed commissioner of patents. After serving in that capacity until 1877, he returned to Cortland, where he resumed the practice of the law.

Next in seniority at our bar stand Geo. B. Jones and Amos L. Kenney, both admitted at the Cortland General Term, in 1848. Mr. Jones was born in Columbia county, but a greater portion of his life has been spent in this part of the State. He was educated in Homer and in Cazenovia, and received his early legal training in the office of Hon. Horatio Ballard. Soon after his admission he opened an office in McGrawville, where he remained several years. Just before the war he removed to Cortland, where, in 1860, he succeeded Judge Smith as district attorney. This office he held two consecutive terms, a distinction not customary in this county. He was for a long time one of the justices of the peace of Cortlandville, and has enjoyed a good practice at the bar.

Amos L. Kenney was born in Truxton and was a member of the graduating class of 1843 at Hamilton College. After studying five years he was admitted to the bar and has since been an active practitioner in his native town, making a specialty of surrogate proceedings and conveyancing.

In 1855 Oliver Porter came to Cortland from Delaware county, where he had been admitted to the bar, and began practice in Homer, where he has continued to reside. He was born in Sullivan county in 1824, receiving an academic education at Monticello, and pursuing his law studies there. He has been one of the most active practitioners in our courts for many years.

Of the legal class admitted at the January General Term of 1856, held at Cortland, three names are especially prominent — those of Nathaniel C. Moak, Merton M. Waters and Abram P. Smith. Mr. Moak was from Cherry Valley and was never connected with our bar. He has resided of late in Albany, where he has attained a wide reputation as editor of various legal text-books and reports, and as one of the leading Court of Appeals practitioners of the State.

Hon. A. P. Smith was born in East Virgil, April 9th, 1831. He was educated for the profession of teaching, attending the Homer Academy and graduating from the State Normal School at Albany in 1853. After teaching about a year in Marathon he came to Cortland and began the study

of law with Hon. Horatio Ballard, with whom he remained until his admission to the bar. In the fall of that year he was elected district attorney of the county, having been in the profession but eight months. During the war Mr. Smith was connected with the 76th New York Volunteers and subsequently wrote a history of that regiment, which has attained a wide circulation among the soldiers of the State. In the fall of 1867 he was elected county judge and surrogate, being re-elected in 1871 and again in 1877. He thus held that office for sixteen consecutive years, having been at the time of his retirement longer on the county bench than any one in the State. Judge Smith has had a very extensive law practice, and has now in partnership with him his son, the firm being A. P. & D. E. Smith.

Mr. Waters was born in Truxton, receiving his academic education in De Ruyter. He studied law in the office of Reynolds & Crandall, in Cortland, and immediately after his admission began practice in the same village. His brother, Alvah D. Waters, admitted shortly after, entered into a partnership with him, which continued until 1870. In 1865 Alvah D. Waters was elected district attorney and held that office at the time of his death. In 1875 Mr. Waters took into partnership with him his son-in-law, Stratton S. Knox, who had studied in his office and who had been admitted to the bar in September of that year. The firm continued doing an extensive business until December, 1881, when Mr. Waters removed to Syracuse. Mr. Knox continued in business until the fall of 1883, when he was elected county judge and surrogate on the Democratic ticket, which office he still holds.

Ira L. Little, of Marathon, is also among the older members of the bar at present. He was born in Wallkill, N. Y., in 1830, and was graduated at Harford University, Pennsylvania. He studied law and was admitted in Pennsylvania in 1853, but removed to Binghamton two years later and in 1855 was admitted to practice in this State. Soon after he came to Marathon, where he has since resided. Mr. Little has devoted a large portion of his time to literary work, although keeping up considerable business as counselor in our courts.

In the same town of Marathon resides another of the earlier bar. George A. Hulbert is a native of Truxton, where he was born in 1829. His early education at the Cortlandville Academy was followed by legal studies in Hamilton and in Ballston, until his admission in 1851. He spent a short time in the west, where he was admitted to the Chicago bar in 1853. For the last twenty years Mr. Hulbert has resided in Marathon, being extensively engaged in the produce trade, as a member of the old New York firm of Wm. Hulbert & Brothers. He has not been engaged in law practice for some years.

In 1858 there were admitted at the Cortland and Binghamton General Terms John S. Barber and William H. Warren. Mr. Barber was a native of Broome county, having been born in Colesville, November 1st, 1824. His academic course was completed at Ithaca, and his legal studies with M. M. Waters in Cortland. In the January term of 1858 he was admitted to the bar at Binghamton, and has since been in business in Cortland. Mr. Barber's health for some time made active practice impossible, but he has devoted a large amount of time to real estate business, and has become one of the most careful and successful financiers of our county.

William H. Warren was born in Exeter, Chenango county, N. Y., and was one of those whose names have added to the roll of Pompey Academy. He studied law with

Hon. Horatio Ballard, and for a long time was his partner. He was admitted in November, 1858, and immediately arose to the first rank as a trial lawyer. He was also for a time in partnership with his brother, L. E. Warren, now of Auburn; and later with Hon. O. U. Kellogg. He has been one of the most successful advocates at our bar.

Benjamin T. Wright studied law in the office of McDowell & Edwards, in Lisle, and was admitted in 1864. He served in the Union ranks during a portion of the war, and on his return settled in Marathon. In 1873 he was elected district attorney of the county, and has since resided in Cortland, doing a very flattering law business.

Frank M. Benjamin came to this county from Herkimer in 1840, when eight years of age. He studied law with R. K. Bourne, at Cincinnatus, and was admitted in 1859. In 1863 he went to Chenango county, but returned in 1867 and began practice in Cincinnatus, where he has since remained.

William J. Mantanye was born at Freetown in 1843, and after graduation at the Homer Academy, studied law with Hon. A. Holmes, and with Hon. A. P. Smith, of Cortland. He was among the first to enlist at the beginning of the war, and served with the Army of the Potomac until discharged, after the surrender of Lee. He was in all of the principal battles in which the 76th N. Y. Vols. were engaged, and was taken prisoner at Gettysburg. In 1867 he was admitted to the bar, and opened an office in Marathon, where he has been favored with an extensive practice.

Admitted in the same year as Mr. Mantanye, at the November General Term, was Irving H. Palmer. He was born in Virgil in 1841, and was graduated at the Cortland Academy. His law studies were pursued in the office of Duell & Benedict, after which he began practice in Cortland. In 1882 he was elected district attorney, which office he still retains.

Mr. Palmer's predecessor in office was Byron A. Benedict, who was elected in the presidential year of 1876, and re-elected three years after. Mr. Benedict is a native of this county, and a graduate of the Homer Academy. He was admitted to the bar in 1869, and soon after, on the death of Mr. Foster, entered into partnership with Judge Duell, with whom he still remains. The firm has been one of the most prominent ever in the county.

The oldest law firm in the county at present is that of Bouton & Champlin, the partnership having been formed in 1869. Lewis Bouton was born in Virgil in May, 1838, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. In November, 1870, he was elected to the office of district attorney, which position he held three years. He was elected one of the justices of the peace in 1883, and is still in office. His partner, Riley Champlin, was born in Solon in 1838, and studied law in the office of Ballard & Warren, in Cortland. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1868, at Binghamton, and within a few months entered into partnership with Mr. Bouton. In April, 1870, he was appointed district attorney of the county in place of Alvah D. Waters, deceased. The firm has been very successful in business, and has attained a very satisfactory position at the bar of this section of the State.

Prominent among the younger members of the bar is Hon. O. U. Kellogg, a native of the town of Cincinnatus. Mr. Kellogg was graduated at the Albany Law School in 1869. In the same year he came to Cortland, and entered the office of Hon. A. P. Smith, where he remained until 1874. In 1875 he was one of the leading counsel for the contestants in the celebrated Shaw will case, the most important action of the kind ever tried in the county. In 1877 he

was elected Member of Assembly on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Kellogg, in addition to his extensive law practice, is largely engaged in stock raising, having one of the finest stock farms in New York, besides several others in the west.

George S. Sands was born in Delaware county, August 19th, 1849, but came to Cortland when quite young. Here he received his preparatory education in the Academy and Normal School, afterwards attending the Andes Collegiate Institute. After a three years' course in the law office of M. M. Waters, he was admitted to the bar in 1873. Mr. Sands has served as town clerk two terms and as justice of the peace for six years, and is now in active practice.

Among the graduates of the Albany Law School of the class of 1875 was Horace L. Bronson, born in Virgil in 1853. Mr. Bronson received his education in the Homer Academy and Cazenovia Seminary, after which he entered the office of Hon. A. P. Smith, where he remained until he entered the Law School. He has since resided in Cortland, where he has an extensive and successful practice.

Among the leading firms of the county is that of Eggleston & Smith, composed of Joseph E. Eggleston and Dorr C. Smith. Mr. Eggleston is a native of Cortland, and a graduate of the Normal School. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1875, and immediately opened an office in Cortland, where he has met with flattering success. His partner, Mr. Smith, was born in Moravia, in 1851. He was graduated at Genoa Academy, after which he entered the office of Hon. A. P. Smith in Cortland. He was admitted to the bar at the Albany General Term in January, 1875, and began practice immediately in Cortland. The firm was established in 1880, and has had a very large calendar of cases at each term since that time.

Miles E. Burlingame was born in Willet, N. Y., November 8th, 1838, and received his education in the common schools of the county. He studied law in the office of A. McDowell, at Lisle, Broome county, N. Y., and at the Albany Law School. He was admitted to the bar at Albany in 1872, and received a diploma from the law school soon after. He has continued his residence in Willet, where he is now practicing.

Lucius P. Hollenbeck was born in Tully, N. Y., in 1837. He was admitted to the bar in 1873. He has made a specialty of the pension business, since that time, in Cortland.

Although not now an active member of the bar, mention should be made of William H. Shankland, jr., son of the late Judge Shankland, For several years the firm of Shankland & Shankland did a large business in Cortland, but the death of the senior member, and the removal of his son to Albany to accept the deputy clerkship of the Court of Appeals, deprived the county bar of two of its most valued members. Mr. Shankland intends to remain permanently in Albany.

Among the older and retired members of the bar should be mentioned Hon. A. Judson Kneeland, the present Member of Assembly from this county. Mr. Kneeland was born in Spafford in 1821, and was graduated at the Cortland Academy in 1843. He studied law with Hon. Ira Harris in Albany and was admitted to the bar in 1848. He has held a number of offices of trust in this and Yates counties, but has not actively engaged in practice in some years. Since 1875 he has been justice of the peace in Homer, and in the fall of 1883 was elected to the Assembly on the Republican ticket.

John W. Suggett, a native of this county, and a graduate of the Cortland Normal School, completed his scholastic work at Cornell University. He studied law with the

late Judge Crandall, and opened an office in Cortland immediately on his admission to the bar. He has devoted much of his attention to patent law, and has a large practice in the Federal court, as well as in those of our own State and county.

Henry D. Waters, of Cuyler, brother of M. M. Waters, of whom a sketch has already been given, and of A. D. and George L. Waters, also members of the bar, is a member of a legal family. He is a native of the county, and during the rebellion was among the most active in the army, where he received wounds, the effect of which he still bears. He is now engaged in practice in Cuyler and is the present clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

William P. Robinson was born in Cortland in 1848, and received his education in the Cortland Academy and Normal School. His law studies were pursued with Hon. H. Crandall, and he was admitted to the bar in 1876. He has since devoted his attention to other pursuits, and is now one of the leading merchants of the county.

James T. Steel was born in Solon in 1840, and after studying with Ballard & Warren in Cortland, was admitted to the bar in 1871. He was a member of the 185th N. Y. Volunteers during the rebellion.

William D. Tuttle was born in Salisbury, Herkimer county, in 1849. He was a student in the McGrawville Academy and the Cortland Normal School. His legal studies were pursued with Judge Crandall. From 1878 to 1881 Mr. Tuttle served as one of the school commissioners of the county, since which he has practiced law in Cortland.

Franklin Pierce was born in Marathon in 1853, and received his preparatory education in Cortland Normal School and Cazenovia Seminary. For a time he was a student at Amherst, but completed his college course at Syracuse in 1879. He studied law with Waters & Knox and was admitted to the bar in September, 1879. He has since removed to Homer, where he is practicing in his profession.

John O'Donnel, after pursuing his legal studies with H. C. Miner at De Ruyter, was admitted to the bar in May, 1881. He immediately opened an office in Truxton, where he has since remained. He has held the office of town clerk several terms, and has had a fair share of the legal business of his vicinity.

Willard J. Van Auken was born in Albany county in 1862, and attended common schools and Union Classical Institute at Schenectady until 1881, when he was graduated at the latter. He studied law with Hon. J. H. Clutes at Albany, and was gradated at the Albany Law School in 1883. He was admitted to the bar at Binghamton in May, 1883, and in the fall of that year began the practice of the law at McGrawville, where he now resides.

Jerome Squires was born in Lapeer, March 10, 1845. He was a student at the Marathon Academy, and studied law with Judge Smith and with John Courtney, jr., until 1880, when he was admitted to the bar. He has since resided and practiced law in Cortland.

Arthur L. Knight is a native of Scott, and was born in 1852. He was graduated at the Homer Academy in 1871 and at Syracuse University in 1878. He studied law with Duell & Benedict until 1882, when he was admitted to the bar. He is now engaged in the pratice of law at Canastota.

Eliot F. Stone was born in Homer, April 1st, 1857, and was graduated at the academy at that village in 1877. He studied law with Waters & Knox, and was admitted to the bar in 1882. He is now one of the justices of the peace in Homer.

Rufus T. Peck, was born December 24th, 1836. His father, Lyman Peck, was a res-

ident of Solon, in which town his grandfather, Stephen N. Peck, was one of its first settlers in 1805. His paternal ancestors were of English stock, and the progenitor of the family in this country, Deacon William Peck, was one of the charter members of the New Haven Colony in 1638. His mother, Almira Thompson, daughter of Zenas Thompson, is of Scotch descent, and her ancestors were among the early families of New England. His early education was obtained in the common school and at New York Central College, and for fourteen years he was a successful teacher, followed by three years as a merchant in his native town. In the fall of 1874 he was elected, on the Republican ticket, school commissioner of the northern district of Cortland county, by re-election served two terms, and received the nomination for a third term, which he declined. He read law with Hon. R. Holland Duell, of Cortland, and was admitted to the bar at the January term of the Supreme Court held at Albany in 1876, but has only practiced law in connection with his private business affairs. In February, 1876, he became identified with the publishing house of Maj. L. H. Evarts, of Philadelphia, and since that date, the firm of Evarts & Peck have published the history of many of the largest cities and counties in the United States. Their published works are popular and will go down to future generations as the authentic record of these localities.

Henry L. Gleason studied law with Holmes & Palmer at Cortland, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. Soon after he entered into partnership with Mr. Palmer, and so remained for some time. For the last few years he has not been in active practice, but is now secretary of the Hitchcock Manufacturing Company.

E. D. Crosley was admitted to the bar in 1879, having studied law with Judge Duell at Cortland. He is now located in Scott.

Gage E. Tarbell was born in Chenango county, in 1856. He was educated in the Clinton Liberal Institute at Clinton, N. Y. He began the study of law in the office of E. J. Arnold in Greene in 1877, and was admitted to the bar three years later. He moved to Marathon the same year, where he is still engaged in the practice of law.

One of the most enterprising of the younger firms of the county is that of J. & T. E. Courtney. The senior member studied law in Marathon, in the office of Wm. J. Mantanye, and began practice there, but soon removed to Cortland where he has been located some six or seven years. His brother, Thomas E. Courtney, studied in Cazenovia Seminary, and pursued his legal work in the law department of Hamilton College. He began practice in Cortland, and in 1881 entered into partnership with his brother. The firm has been very energetic and successful, and is now doing a large business.

John E. Winslow is a native of Virgil. He studied law at home and in the office of Hon. O. U. Kellogg at Cortland. After his admission to the bar he was elected justice of the peace of the town of Virgil, although he still keeps his office in Cortland with Mr. Kellogg, where he has a very successful practice.

Another of the younger members of the bar is Fred Hatch, the present clerk of the village of Cortland. Mr. Hatch studied law in the office of Judge Shankland, after which he opened an office in Cortland, where he still remains. His practice is flattering to his efforts, and his success is assured.

M. Stanley Bierce, one of the justices of the peace of the town of Cortlandville, is also a member of the bar, although he has not devoted his attention to the practice of the law.

Benton B. Jones and Hon. Wm. H. Clark,

editors of two of the village papers, are also members of the bar, but have not followed their profession.

James Dougherty, for several years supervisor from Solon, has recently removed to Cortland, and opened a law office with I. H. Palmer. Mr. Dougherty has all of the qualifications of a good lawyer.

The youngest member of the present Cortland bar is D. E. Smith. Mr. Smith was born in Cortland in 1860, and completed his collegiate studies at Syracuse University. He studied law with his father, Hon. A. P. Smith, and is now in partnership with him. Mr. Smith is the compiler and author of the first part of this article, down to the history of the living members of the bar.

FIRST JUDGES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS AND JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Name.	Date of Election or Appointment.
John Keep	1810
William Mallory	1823
Joseph Reynolds	1833
Henry Stephens	1838
Daniel Hawks	1847
Lewis Kingsley	1851
R. Holland Duell	1855
Stephen Brewer	1859
Hiram Crandall	1859
Abram P. Smith	1867
Stratton S. Knox	1883

SURROGATES.

Name.	Date of Election or Appointment.
John McWhorter	1808
Mead Merrill	1810
Luther F. Stephens	1811
John McWhorter	1815
Adin Webb	1816
Jabez B. Phelps	1823
Charles W. Lynde	1828
Townsend Ross	1832
Anthony Freer	1836
Adin Webb	1840
Anthony Freer	1844

County Judge since 1847.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

(*Since* 1819.)

Augustus A. Donnelly	1819
Edward C. Reed	1827
William H. Shankland	1836
Horatio Ballard	1842
Augustus S. Ballard	1847
R. Holland Duell	1850
Edward C. Reed	1856
Abram P. Smith	1856
George B. Jones	1859
A. D. Waters	1865
Riley Champlin	1870
Lewis Bouton	1870
B. T. Wright	1873
B. A. Benedict	1876
I. H. Palmer	1882

CHAPTER XVI.

THE CORTLAND COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.[1]

THE Cortland County Medical Society was organized in 1808 in accordance with a law, enacted by the Legislature in 1806, incorporating the New York State Medical Society, and which law also required medical societies to be formed in every county of the State. This enactment was approved by Gov. Morgan Lewis, April 4th, 1806.

Cortland county was organized in the spring of 1808, having until that time constituted a part of Onondaga. As soon after the organization of the county as practicable, namely, on the 10th day of August, 1808, the following gentlemen, legally qualified to practice medicine and surgery, convened at the house of Captain

[1] Prepared by Dr. Caleb Green, of Homer.

Enos Stimson (now "The Windsor") in Homer village: Drs. Lewis S. Owen, Luther Rice, John Miller, Elijah G. Wheeler, Robert D. Taggart, Ezra Pannel, Allen Barney and Jesse Searl.

These pioneers in the medical profession of the county then and there formed a medical association under the name of the "Cortland County Medical Society," which has continued in active operation since that date to the present time.

The organization was effected by the election of the following members as officers of the society: Dr. Lewis S. Owen, presiden; Dr. John Miller, vice-president; Dr. Jesse Searl, secretary; Dr. Robert D. Taggart, treasurer.

Drs. Miller, Barney and Taggart were appointed a committee to draft a code of by-laws for the government and regulation of the society.

At the time of the semi-centennial anniversary of the society, August 10th, 1858, the honored and venerable Dr. John Miller, of Truxton — then our president — was the only one of the founders of the society still living in the county.

So far as the records show, the society was not represented in the State Medical Society until 1814, when Dr. John Miller was sent as delegate.

The opportunities for a thorough medical education at the time of the formation of this society were limited, and only those of wealth or who resided in convenient proximity to the few medical colleges then existing in the country could have the advantage of systematic instruction. Not one of the founders of the society had graduated in medicine. Dr. Miller, while a private pupil of Dr. Rush, in Philadelphia, had attended the lectures of Rush and Shippen, two of the founders of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, but did not complete his university course. But these men had been sufficiently instructed to know the value of education, and most of them sought to supplement it by the diligent study of such works as were then to be had. As early as 1814 or 1815 measures were taken to found a library for the use of the society, and Drs. Owen and Miller were appointed a committee to select such books as they had the means of purchasing. From time to time most of the surplus funds in the treasury were expended in the purchase of books, until a choice library of standard books and periodicals accumulated to the amount of about 200 volumes. After 1845 this co-operative plan of keeping up a central library, by additions to it, was discontinued, and each member urged and encouraged to supply himself with and study the latest and best works and periodicals, and thus to keep abreast of the advances in medical knowledge.

From the early records of the Onondaga County Medical Society we learn that the first meeting of that society was held July 1st, 1806, three months after the passage of the act establishing the State Society. At that meeting Dr. Jesse Searl, of Homer, became a member of the society. At the next meeting of the society, held October 7th, 1806, among the persons proposed for membership were Dr. Robert D. Taggart, of Preble, and Dr. John Miller, of Truxton. These three gentlemen were among the organic members of the Cortland County Society, and afterwards so prominent in its history, and were the only Cortland county physicians, so far as the records show, who were also members of the original Onondaga Society.

The following gentlemen were the organic members of the Onondaga County Medical Society: Drs. William Adams, Deodatus Clark, John W. Frisbie, Gordon Needham, Smith Weed, Jesse Searl, James Jackson, Daniel Tibbals, Isaac Benedict, Salmon

Thayer and Walter Colton. At the next meeting of the Society in October, 1806, the following were proposed for membership, viz.: Drs. Jesse Munger, Robert D. Taggart, John C. Merwin, Silas Park, David Holbrook, John Miller, Calvin Wright, George Eagur, Joseph Ely, Samuel Porter, Bildad Beach and Samuel Furniss.

At the organization of the Onondaga Society, Dr. Frisbie was elected president, Dr. Needham vice-president, Dr. Tibbals treasurer and Dr. Walter Colton secretary.

We shall give brief sketches of the pioneers of this society, as well as of some of its more active members during the first half century of its existence.

Dr. Lewis S. Owen, the first president of the society, was born in the town of New Lebanon, Columbia county, N. Y., in 1772. His early education was obtained in the common schools of his native town. For a short time he attended the academic department of Williams College, preparatory to commencing the study of medicine, which was in 1795 or '96, with Dr. Stringer, of Albany, then a very prominent practitioner of that city. He concluded his medical pupilage with Dr. McClellan, also of Albany, and was licensed by the courts of Albany county in 1798, and came to the town of Homer in 1799, in which town he continued to live till his death in 1849, lacking but one month of fifty years' residence there. It is believed that Dr. Owen was the first physician who permanently located in what is now the county of Cortland. The country was new, the roads were bad, and often mere cattle paths through the woods. This state of affairs rendered his labors severe and fatiguing, but he pursued the practice of his profession steadily for nearly twenty-five years. He was said to have been a man of discriminating judgment and was reputed a sound and successful practitioner.

Dr. Owen was one of the original founders of the society in 1808, was elected its first president and held that office by annual election till 1820.

Dr. Owen was one of the founders of Cortland Academy, in 1818, and one of its trustees during the remainder of his life, and was for several years president of the board of trustees. The last twenty or more years of his life were mainly devoted to agricultural pursuits.

Dr. Jesse Searl, one of the best known and most influential for good in every word and work, was a native of Southampton, Mass. He was born in 1767, educated in the common schools of his native town, and pursued his medical studies with Dr. Woodbridge, of Southampton. He commenced practice in the vicinity of his native town, but came to this State not far from 1800, fixing his first residence in Fabius, Onondaga county. He came to Homer in 1803 or '04 and diligently pursued the practice of his profession until the year 1812, when he purchased and assumed the editorship of the *Cortland Repository*, at that time the only newspaper published in the county. From that time he attended but little to professional calls — at least, devoted himself mainly to editorial work, printing and publishing. Being a frail man physically, he could not endure the hardships incident to a physician's life in a new country, and hence his motive for renouncing medical practice for a less laborious occupation. It is related that while he devoted himself to medical service he was faithful to the trusts imposed upon him, and by his sympathy with the sick and kindness of heart won the confidence and esteem of his employers. Dr. Searl's education, general and professional, was somewhat in advance of most of his cotemporaries, and he continued to improve it by diligent study and observation. He had the best private medical library in the county. He was a subscriber and

reader of the only medical periodical then published in this country — the *Medical Repository*, published in New York. He was a regular attendant upon all the meetings of the County Society — was its first secretary, and held that position by annual election until the year 1820.

He was eminently a religious man and a worthy member of the Congregational Church from 1806 to the time of his death in 1834, at the age of sixty-eight years. "In all of the affairs of life, as a man, a Christian, a conductor of a public newspaper, and as a physician, Dr. Searl was consistent and faithful in their varied duties, and the poor always found in him a friend in time of need."

Dr. Robert D. Taggart was the son of the Rev. Samuel Taggart, of Colerain, Mass., and a twin brother of Dr. Samuel Taggart, jr., formerly of Byron, Genesee county, N. Y., and also a brother of the Hon. Moses Taggart, formerly one of the judges in the Supreme Court of this State. Dr. Taggart was born, reared and obtained his general and medical education in Colerain. He came to this State in 1804. He first resided for a short time in Pompey, Onondaga county. He came to Preble in 1805 and for a few months was a teacher of common schools, but was solicited by some of the people to establish himself as a physician, which he soon did. He was the first physician who settled in that town, if we except Doctor, afterwards Judge, Jabez B. Phelps, who, on account of some physical disability, never entered into general practice. His medical education was rather imperfect, even for that day, but he was a man of good sense, not rash, and acquired the confidence of the people and was popular as an accoucheur. He was a man of "good humor," having a good fund of anecdote and quick at repartee. In 1831 he removed to Byron, Genesee county, and entered into partnership with his brother. He died in 1843.

Dr. Ezra Pannel was also a native of Colerain, Mass., and was a part of the time of his pupilage a fellow-student with Dr. Taggart in the office of Dr. Ross of his native town. Little is known of his early history. He came into this county and settled in the town of Truxton in 1807, where he combined farming with the practice of his profession until about 1822, when he removed to Monroe county.

Dr. Elijah G. Wheeler came into this county from New Jersey in 1804 or '05 and settled in the town of Solon. He was well educated, a man of good abilities, and had the reputation of being a good practitioner of medicine, "but unfortunately was addicted to habits of intemperance, which rendered him an unsafe person to take charge of the sick. That very much injured his business and usefulness." He died about 1825.

Dr. Luther Rice was a son of Deacon Rice, one of the pioneers in the settlement of this county, who came into Homer — now Cortlandville — in 1796. It is not known where this son was educated, but he established himself in practice in Homer about the year 1800. He was one of the original members of the County Society. He removed to Alleghany county, but the date is not known.

Dr. Allen Barney settled in the town of Homer in 1807. After a few years he removed to Cortland. He was a man of peculiar characteristics; obstinate in opinion, impatient of contradiction, receiving much credit for sense and ability by his roughness and crispness of speech. He removed to the State of Ohio in 1812, and died there soon afterwards.

The last, but by no means the least, of the original founders of the Cortland County Medical Society to be noticed is Dr.

John Miller. We avail ourselves of the highly interesting memorial sketch given of him by the late Dr. George W. Bradford, in the *Transactions of the New York State Medical Society* for 1862.

Dr. Miller was born in the town of Amenia, Duchess county, N. Y., on the 10th of November, 1774. His early opportunities for education were very limited, he having attended a common school but one year and a classical school in Connecticut for about the same length of time. With these meager advantages he commenced the study of medicine in 1793 with Dr. Miller, an uncle of his, in his native county. After little more than a year he went to Easton, Washington county, and entered the office of Dr. Moshier. While pursuing his studies with Dr. Moshier he received a severe injury by being thrown from a horse. Owing to the severity of this injury he was obliged to suspend his studies for more than two years, during which time he was at his home in Duchess county. After several months of this enforced idleness he was advised by Dr. Baird, of New York, to seek a position in the then small navy of the United States. With this purpose in view, but much against the wishes of his family, he went to New York, where he was presented, by Dr. Baird and others, with letters of recommendation to Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Philadelphia, whither he repaired and presented his credentials. At that time young Miller was in bad health, very thin in body, and more than six feet in height. The venerable signer of the Declaration, not a little amused that so ghostly looking a young man should think of entering the navy, said to him: "Young man, you look much better fitted for a skeleton in my office than for a post in the navy." But as he had somewhat recovered from the fatigue of his journey, Dr. Rush went with him to visit the president of the United States, the venerable John Adams, residing in Philadelphia, then the seat of the general government, and through the influence of Dr. Rush obtained the place he sought. He was directed to report himself to the surgeon of the United States brig *New York*, then soon to sail for Tripoli. At this interview with President Adams, Dr. Rush and young Miller were invited to dine with the president the next day. The invitation was accepted, and at the president's table they met General Washington, Fisher Ames, and several other distinguished characters of that day.

On farther acquaintance Dr. Rush advised Miller to resign his post in the navy, and at the same time offered him a place in his family and a position in his office as a private pupil. This most advantageous offer he gladly embraced, and remained with him nearly two years, accompanying the doctor in his rides into the country and attending his lectures in the University of Pennsylvania, and those of Dr. Shippen. From Philadelphia he returned to Washington county in 1798, and entered into a partnership with his former instructor, Dr. Moshier, where he remained until 1801. He was licensed to practice medicine and surgery by the Vermont Medical Society in 1800. From Washington county he removed, in 1801, to what is now Truxton, Cortland county, and established himself in the practice of his profession, which he pursued unremittingly for more than twenty-five years, and occasionally for some years longer.

Few men had the capacity for physical endurance and unwearied perseverance like him. The country being new, the roads were always bad, and sometimes almost impassable, yet he performed an amount of labor almost incredible, frequently riding thirty, forty, and even more than fifty miles a day — at all times, by night as well as

day, in storm as well as sunshine, with an energy that no obstacle could resist. Many are the anecdotes related of his adventures in the forests and by-paths of Truxton, often by torch-light, to attend on some family perchance too poor to pay the doctor for his services.

As a practitioner Dr. Miller possessed in an eminent degree the confidence of his employers. His strong mind and retentive memory enabled him readily to seize on the phases of disease and to recall the measures of treatment indicated, and his promptitude and readiness in the administration of relief to the sufferer at once secured the confidence of the sick. His strict attendance to those entrusted to his care, as well as his kindness of heart, which led him to sympathize deeply in all their sufferings, all convinced those who employed him that his whole energies were enlisted in their welfare. Amidst all his incessant labors he found time to cultivate his mind by reading much of the current medical literature, and his well balanced mind and retentive memory enabled him to make the best use of what he read.

He was elected an honorary member of the New York State Medical Society in 1808, and at the time of his death was the oldest member of the society by nine years. At the semi-centennial anniversary of the society in February, 1857, Dr. Miller was present by special invitation. He entered into the spirit of the meeting with all the ardor of his nature, and many of the members present, who, for the first time, there saw him will long remember "the old man eloquent" and their pleasant and profitable acquaintance with their venerable fellow-member. Such was his character and standing in his profession, and his gentlemanly intercourse with each member of the society, that all loved to meet him and to confer honor and their kindest favors upon one so much esteemed and highly venerated.

Dr. Miller, while yet in the vigor of his days, left the practice of his profession and turned his attention to agriculture. Notwithstanding this, he still manifested an interest in his profession, always greeting its members with warm cordiality. He pursued agriculture with the same characteristic earnestness, both on the farm and in the agricultural society, that he had always shown in the practice of medicine.

The intelligence and energy with which he entered into all the affairs of state was such that he early became prominent in public life. His first public office was that of coroner, to which he was appointed by Gov. George Clinton in 1802. He was appointed postmaster in 1805, and retained the office for twenty years. He received the appointment of justice of the peace in 1812 and discharged its duties until 1821. He was one of the judges of the county courts from 1817 to 1820. He was elected as a Member of the Assembly from this county in 1816, and re-elected in 1820 and again in 1846. This same year he represented his county in the convention for revising the constitution of the State. In 1826 and 1827 he represented the Twenty-second Congressional District in the Congress of the United States. In all these positions of public trust he evinced the same energy and determined will and prompt action that he had shown in his professional career. His readiness to sacrifice personal interest and ease to the public good, and his experience in public life with the honesty of purpose manifested in his intercourse with his associates enabled him to exert a commanding influence over any deliberative body. These, with his usual energy, his eminent personal vivacity, rendered him a welcome guest in all social gatherings.

In person Dr. Miller was tall in stature, and even in his last years still retained his

firm step and erect position and never exhibited the decrepid old man in appearance or in loss of intellect, but entered into conversation with all the energy and fire of his youthful days.

During the epidemic pneumonia which prevailed in 1812–13 his labors were herculean and very successful.

In the temperance cause he spent much time and large sums of money in the diffusion of temperance publications among the inhabitants of his town, holding meetings in the several school-houses, and urging with earnest eloquence the adoption of the practice of total abstinence. He was firm in the belief of the beneficial effect of a wise prohibitory law to prevent the traffic in intoxicating liquors. In this cause Dr. Miller took an early and active part. During his pupilage he once saw a beautiful child sacrificed in consequence of the intoxication of the physician when called to its relief in an hour of suffering. This made a deep and lasting impression on his mind and led him at the very beginning of his professional career to firmly resolve to abstain from all intoxicating drinks. In this determination he persevered to the end of his life. He was long an officer in the New York State Temperance Society and often attended its meetings at Albany.

At an early day the doctor gave to the Presbyterian Church and society two valuable lots of land in the center of the village for a church and parsonage, and also one other lot as a site for a public school-house, besides contributing liberally to the expense of erecting and furnishing these public buildings. His seat in church was always occupied by himself or family.

In the support of the varied objects of benevolence of the age and of the institutions of the Gospel in his own vicinity Dr. Miller was a firm friend and a contributor.

The legend of his romantic courtship and marriage would occupy more space than we have to give to it. Suffice it to say that, before coming to this county in 1801, he had formed an attachment to and an engagement with a young lady living in Troy, N. Y., whom he expected to become his partner and help-meet through the journey of life. After his settlement in Truxton the correspondence was for some months kept up constantly and matters went on smoothly. After some time letters were not received by either party as formerly and at last ceased altogether. They each came to the conclusion reluctantly, and in bewilderment, that the other had become false to the engagement promise. At last the doctor received a letter from a friend in Troy, saying that the young lady was to be married to a person there in a few days from the date of his letter, and, knowing that John Miller could never do a dishonorable thing, suspected something wrong. There were no telegraphs or swift mail trains in those days. The letter of his friend was received only twenty-four hours before the expected wedding. This was late in March when the winter roads were breaking up and were consequently at their worst. What should be done? With a promptness inspired by desperation he instantly resolved to retrieve what he supposed had been lost. He mounted his faithful horse *Gershom*, who possessed a physical endurance and determined energy equal to that of his master and, turning his head toward Troy, one hundred and thirty miles distant, started. In less than twenty-four hours the journey must be accomplished and with *Gershom* alone. And splendidly did the noble animal accomplish his task, reaching the west bank of the Hudson just in time to plunge aboard the last boat that was to cross that night, and was in a few minutes standing, with foaming flanks and distended nostrils, before the door of his future mistress. The

wedding guests were assembling No time was to be lost. He knocked at the door. The father of the girl opened it. There stood the young doctor bespattered with mud and riding-stick in hand. No time for apologies. "Is Phebe at home?" "Yes." "Can I see her?" "Walk in; I will inform her that you are here." In a few minutes Phebe made her appearance, explanations followed and a speedy reconciliation was the result. Their letters had been intercepted by the rascally fellow who went home that night wifeless.

They were married in 1805 and a happy union it proved to be. Mrs. Miller was a lady of rare accomplishments, of ardent piety and in all respects a fit companion for her worthy husband. They had eight children — five sons and three daughters. Mrs. Miller died in 1834, much lamented, aged 59 years.

Dr. Miller retained his wonted faculties almost to the last hour of his long life; was perfectly sensible of the steady and sure approach of death, yet with calmness and systematic carefulness made every preparation for the end.

Thus he actively and usefully lived, thus he quietly and calmly died on the 30th day of March, 1862, leaving abundant evidence of his preparation for an entrance, through the grace of our Lord and Savior, into the rest prepared for the just.

A large concourse of his friends and fellow-citizens attended his funeral and among them a large number of the members of the County Medical Society. An impressive sermon was delivered by the Rev. Caleb Clark, who for more than forty years had been the confidential friend and the spiritual adviser of himself and family. The Medical Society, through their committee consisting of Drs. F. Hyde, G. W. Bradford and C. Green, presented memorial resolutions expressive of love, veneration and esteem for their deceased brother and sympathy for his family and friends.

We have devoted perhaps too much of our limited space to the biographical sketches of the pioneers — the founders of the society — but the extended notice of Dr. Miller seemed to be demanded by his place in the history of the society and that of the county and State. The history of the county required more than a passing notice of his worth and deeds.

But there have been other worthies in the first half century of the society's history who were so much identified with its interest and progress, as well as that of the county and State that, at least, a brief notice of them should be recorded.

Dr. Levi Boies, of Cortland village, was the first licentiate of the society, becoming a member in 1812, and was long a respectable practitioner and valuable citizen.

Dr. John Lynde was the first member of the society who ever attended a full course of lectures in a chartered medical college, he having attended the course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1812. He was a prominent practitioner in Homer for many years, when he removed to Ogden, Monroe county, where he died some years ago.

Dr. Miles Goodyear, of Cortland, was the first member of the society who ever received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and which was conferred on him by Yale College in 1816.

Dr. Goodyear was born at Hamden, New Haven county, Conn., November 14th, 1793 — Thanksgiving Day. His father died when he was four years of age. His mother lived to the ripe age of eighty-six years. At about the age of fifteen he entered a mercantile establishment, thinking that trade might be his vocation, but soon perceived that "it would not do, as he was likely to *give* away all the goods and so con-

cluded to get a profession." As preparatory to professional study he took lessons in Latin and chemistry under the tutelage of the Rev. Eliphalet Coleman. As his guardian refused to furnish him the means of education, he had to borrow money in order to complete his studies. It was early in the war of 1812–14 that he matriculated in the medical department of Yale College. A brother who had a family was drafted to serve in the war, but Miles took his place, serving at New London a few weeks until the college term opened, when he was released, as students were exempt by law. He was a member of the first class that graduated in the medical department of the college. After his graduation he made a journey to Niagara Falls on horseback, accompanied by his friend and class-mate, Dr. Smith. Rochester at that time had but few houses and Buffalo was a mass of blackened ruins, having been burned by the British during the then recent war. This journey was full of interest to the ardent young botanists soon to enter on medical practice. He practiced a few months in Genoa, N. Y., and then came to Cortland, but finding the field, as he thought, fully occupied, removed to Danby, Tompkins county, where he remained a year, and was then induced to return to Cortland, which ever afterwards was his permanent residence. In 1818 he joined the County Medical Society, and soon became one of its most active and reliable members—always attending its stated meetings when not absent from town or otherwise inevitably detained. "He loved his profession and pursued it *as such* and not as a *trade*. He respected the claims of his calling and was keenly sensitive to its honor, and observed its ethical usages in letter and spirit. He sought in his professional intercourse first to confer the greatest good on the patient; *next, to observe the kindliest and most sacred regard for the good name of the attending physician.*" He was eminently the friend of young medical men and always ready to give them encouraging words and to overlook their mistakes and deficiencies.

He was president of the society in 1824 and 1831, and from 1834 to 1840 inclusive, and again in 1847. The society commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of his membership by reading a poem written by Miss E. Hathaway and dedicated to him, entitled the "Good Physician."

Such was the pre-eminent confidence of his fellow-citizens in his courage, skill and judgment that, on the outbreak of the first epidemic of Asiatic cholera in 1832, they sent him to Albany and New York to investigate the nature, prophylaxis and treatment of the dread disease. Many years afterward, being in New Haven during the very fatal epidemic of yellow fever in Norfolk, Va., he offered himself to the common council to be sent professionally to the help of the stricken city, "but word being received of the abatement of the pestilence, he was allowed to come home to other self-denials." In 1851 he represented the Medical Association of Southern Central New York in the American Medical Association at Charleston, S. C. In his various journeyings during his professional vacations, which he took for the benefit of invalid members of his family, he visited Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville and New Orleans, always making pleasant and profitable acquaintances among the distinguished members of the profession in those places.

During the war of the rebellion he visited the hospitals of Washington, intending to stay as long as his funds should hold out. Here his cheerful service among "our boys" proved a great blessing, and when his purse became exhausted, instead of coming home, he enlisted as an assistant surgeon in a regiment, and was sent to the front at Freder-

icksburg, where for some time he did the duties of regimental surgeon. But the fatigue and wearing nature of his labors were too much for a system already beginning to feel the infirmities of age, and he was allowed to return, but on the way encountered perils nearly as great as those in active service in the enemy's front, having been left at a poor Virginia cabin, sick with fever, and with a family so poor that the cow and pig shared the hut with the bipeds of the place, and the dietary consisting of corn meal alone. But he survived these perils, and, after resting awhile, returned to his home quite fresh and well.

He occasionally visited New Haven, Conn., and the scenes of his childhood and youth, in his native town and county, nearly always taking some member of his family with him. During one of these sojourns at this place occurred the opening of the new Medical College. On this occasion he met on the platform three of the professors to whose lectures he listened about forty years before, and he was the only matriculant of the first class present.

Like many other medical men of his early day, the principal branch of natural history specially cultivated by him was botany. In this Dr. Goodyear was an expert. He taught it to his children and his students, who, under the inspiration imparted to them by their teacher, became enthusiastic in its pursuit. And this enthusiasm was not limited to his home and office, for many a one, in his extensive intercourse with the people, was influenced by it to pursue this fascinating department of inquiry. Much of the tediousness and even fatigue of his long rides over the hills, through the forests, by the swamps and river borders was relieved by the delight yielded on every hand by the sight of some new or rare, or even familiar flower or plant, and those at home were rarely disappointed, on his return, in the receipt of a rich botanical contribution. His neighbors were often surprised in looking over his flower borders to find some new beauties that their untrained eyes had never seen before, and could have been easily persuaded that they were rare and expensive exotics. But when told that they grew in abundance in the neighboring woods, or yonder swamp, or by Otter creek, or on the banks of the Tioughnioga, their surprise was not diminished.

His botanical studies kept him ever young, as an intelligent pursuit of any branch of natural history will do to its ardent votary. It is rest and vacation to the weary doctor, and manyfold enhances the pleasure of his periods of vacation travel when they are taken. Every where, in every plant, shrub or tree, under every stone or old log, in the very ooze or mud beds of pond or river nature reveals herself in an endless series of pleasure-giving surprises, and when the microscope is added to the means of observation and study, the pleasure of the student is almost unlimited. Dr. Goodyear was by no means indifferent to other departments of natural science than botany, but regarded every revelation of it as but a thought of the Creator, and, as such, worthy of interested attention. It is said that he was much interested as well as proficient in chemistry and physics.

Like too many physicians, especially of his time, he was careless in the collection of his dues — even in *charging* for his services. Very often his charges were wholly inadequate, and in the matter of collection, he allowed his patient to fix the amount he would pay, and thus between charging and collection his income was small. Besides this, there was a large list of those who never paid any thing, but freely and unhesitatingly called on him for service and sacrifice. "Keenly sensitive to a kindness, he

endeavored to repay the same; as sensitive to neglect, he still continued to feel kindly toward all. Ever unwilling to owe any man anything, and often doing without comforts until he had the money in hand to pay for them, it was strange to him that people could ask for his services for a generation without seeking to recompense him for the same. Yet when real inability existed he considered it a privilege to minister, and that not grudgingly." He once told the writer that one of the greatest sins for which he had to repent was not that he had given the poor so little, but the *rich* so *much*,—alluding to the easy manner in which he had often allowed a long account, severely earned, to be balanced by those able to pay in full the customary and legitimate fees.

Dr. Goodyear's interest in his old classmates was manifested by his correspondence —his and their letters passing from one to another in the manner of circulars. One of his classmates was Professor Jared Kirtland, of Cleveland, the distinguished naturalist of Ohio, with whom he kept up a very pleasant correspondence.

Three years before his death a daughter died at Portage, Wis. She was the fourth child whom he had buried — the last but one. An invalid most of her life, he had undertaken the journey, extending to the Falls of St. Anthony, for the benefit of her health. After marked improvement, she suddenly declined in health, and died away from home. This was a great source of depression to him at the time.

On the 29th of January, 1817, he was married to Miss Polly Goodyear, a distant relative of his, and living in his native town. Much as we desire time and space for recounting the many virtues of this most excellent woman and most worthy helpmeet of such a man, we are obliged barely to refer to her long and happy association as the wife of the "Good Physician," and as an affectionate mother, devoted friend and neighbor. She survived her husband more than six years — kept fresh and fragrant his memory in the annual meetings of the County Society by the decoration of its tables with the choicest flowers of "the month of roses," which the good doctor always loved so well — a custom which has been in a good measure perpetuated by his only surviving child.

Their Golden Wedding was duly celebrated on the 29th of January, 1867 — the doctor entering into its festivities with his usual zest. He was gratified beyond measure by the great pains his friends had taken to make it an occasion of joy, and appeared to good advantage in his invariable dress coat and ruffles. He spent the following summer with his family in New Haven, revisiting every spot dear to his childhood. In February, 1869, he visited Philadelphia, remained some time, and returned home greatly invigorated. More cheerful than usual during the next summer and the fol lowing winter months, his steps grew slower. But he abated not a whit his interest in every thing, he buffeted any storm, answered any call, and every day but his last was dressed with the usual neatness and care, which those who knew him will remember so well. He died on the morning of March 1st, 1870, aged seventy-six years.

Dr. Lewis Riggs was born in Norfolk, Conn., on the 16th of January, 1789. His father was of English, his mother of Scotch descent. They were good examples of the early inhabitants of New England, and both are said to have been persons of remarkable force and energy of character. Their family consisted of seven sons and two daughters, and were trained to habits of industry and frugality. Lewis was the youngest son, and although brought up to the labor of the farm, displayed much me-

chanical talent as well as aptness for the acquirement of a knowledge of books. While at home he had the advantages of a common school education, and also of several terms at an academy in his native town, thus acquiring what was considered a good English education. But the lack of means prevented his pursuit of a college course, to which he aspired. His taste and talent for mechanical employment led to his apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade to Mr. Samuel N. Gaylord, with whom he came to Cortland in the spring of 1805. In after years, when riding over the country as a practitioner of medicine, he was able to point to not a few houses and barns which he helped to build. After working at his trade for about two years he returned to Connecticut, where a part of the time he plied his trade, and a portion of the time attended school. In the spring of 1809 he decided on the profession of medicine, and commenced his student life in the office of Dr. Samuel Woodward, of Torringford, Conn., a practitioner of high repute, and the father of the afterwards distinguished alienist of the Worcester Asylum, and who was his fellow student. In the office of Dr. Woodward his opportunities for medical observation were superior for the times. In May, 1812, he received a county license to practice, but continued in the office of his preceptor during the summer, but in October of that year he went to Philadelphia to attend a course of medical lectures in the University of Pennsylvania. Here he sat under the instruction of Drs. Rush, Philip Syng Physic, Dorsey and Wistar — the leaders in medical thought at that period. This was the last course of lectures delivered by the venerable Rush at the close of a long and active life as civilian, medical practitioner, author and medical professor. He died April 19th, 1813. Dr. Physic has been called the father of American surgery, as Dr. Rush was confessedly the father of American medicine. To listen to the instruction of these men was a rare opportunity for young Riggs, and was not allowed to pass without being improved, and the lessons made impressions which lasted for a life time. From conversations which the writer had with Dr. Riggs in the latter years of his life, it is certain that Dr. Physic, equally with Dr. Rush, was impressed by the diligence and acuteness of perception of the young student from Connecticut, and as the testimonials which he bore away from these men, and now in the hands of Dr. H. O. Jewett, of Cortland — having the "sign manual" of one of the signers of the Declaration, and of the father of American surgery — abundantly show.

From Philadelphia he returned to his native State, when, after looking about for a few weeks, concluded to "go west," and so in the spring of 1813 came to the State of New York and located at Vernon, Oneida county. Here he soon acquired a fair amount of business, but after a while he became ambitious of the wider field of a more populous town and, in 1818, removed to Homer and opened a drug store, intending to associate trade with practice as less laborious than an entire devotion to general work in the professional field. But he soon found himself engaged in large practice. The same year he became a member of the County Society. For about ten years he continued the practice of his profession in Homer, but in the summer of 1828 sold his property and "practice" to Dr. Metcalf and removed to Trumansburg, engaging as a partner in a dry goods store. We have no explanation of this strange movement for a physician well prepared for professional work, but find it pleasant to make a record of the fact he did not long remain in a business which ill-befitted him and with which he naturally became dissatisfied. Dr. Met-

calf, for some reason, did not remain in Homer long and Dr. Riggs was persuaded by his former patrons in that town to return to his legitimate calling. There he applied himself with his characteristic energy to professional work and soon became one of the leading practitioners, and for several years performed a large share of the medical and surgical practice of the town.

In 1834 Dr. Riggs formed a copartnership with Dr. Ashbel Patterson, formerly of Danby, Tompkins county, and continued the association for about seven years. After the dissolution of this business relation he was nominated in the fall of 1840 by his political party to represent the district in Congress. He was elected and served his constituents as the representative of the Twenty-second District in the Twenty-seventh Congress, 1841–42. This led to his retirement from practice and to his engagement in other enterprises which would relieve him from the labors of professional work. He purchased the flouring mill south of the village and erected a new stone building on its site, superintending its construction and planning many of the details of its machinery. But this did not distract his attention entirely from his interest in medicine, and he frequently responded to professional calls from his old friends and patrons.

In the spring of 1847 he had an attack of hemiplegia, which confined him to his bed for several weeks and threatened the termination of his life. From this attack he gradually recovered and in a few months was able to resume his accustomed employments. But he never recovered his former strength and activity. Still his memory, except for certain words and names, and his mental faculties generally seemed but slightly, if at all, impaired.

He attended to some calls about the village by those who still insisted on having the opinion and advice of "the old doctor," and also attended at times to consultation visits in the country.

But his infirmities from year to year crept gradually on him, of which he had the clear perception and the good sense to acknowledge. And yet he was able to perform some work and rarely suffered excepting temporarily until the fall of 1869, when he was prostrated by a slow fever which confined him to his room, and much of the time to his bed, during the following winter and spring. At the approach of warm weather he began to rally and was so far improved as to be able to walk about the village, although his steps were slow, necessitated by those heart degenerations peculiar to advanced life and which caused paroxysms of difficult respiration. But as the months wore on, at the approach of autumn, it became evident that the end was near. His paroxysms of dyspnœa became more frequent. His last days were those of a very gradual failure, and the last hours were a quiet sinking to rest, apparently conscious to the last. He died about midnight of the 7th of November, 1870, in the eighty-second year of his age.

Dr. Riggs was twice married. First to Miss Fanny Olmstead, a lady of quiet and amiable disposition and purely domestic habits. By her he had five children, four daughters and a son Mrs. Riggs, after several years of feeble health, died of acute pneumonia, on the 31st of January, 1862. He afterwards married Mrs. Sarah Lilly, with whom he spent the remainder of his days.

Dr. Riggs possessed a good physique with a large amount of vital stamina and great physical and moral courage. His countenance was strongly marked, his eyes were dark, his brow prominent, his mouth firm and compressed, bordering on the severe. His personal appearance conveyed

at once the impression of unusual force of character. He possessed a mind naturally vigorous and well poised; was thorough, bold and independent in his thoughts and actions and firm in his convictions.

For these notes of the life of Dr. Riggs we are indebted to the very able and interesting biographical sketch read at the annual meeting of the County Society in December, 1870, by Dr. H. O. Jewett, of Cortland. We regret that we have not room for a more extended notice.

Dr. George W. Bradford was born in the town of Otsego, near Cooperstown, N. Y., May 9th, 1796, and died at Syracuse, October 31st, 1883. He was of the seventh generation in direct descent from the famous William Bradford, the second governor of Plymouth colony. His father, Esek Bradford, a native of Providence, R. I., removed from Woodstock, Conn., about 1793, to that portion of the town of Otsego now called Hartwick. George was the third child and oldest son of a family of ten children.

The opportunities for education at that early day in a new country were extremely limited — the nearest school-house being two miles away and his school term being limited to the few months between late fall and early spring; but this short time was compensated by its most energetic and diligent use. He early acquired a taste for books and became a devoted reader of the best literature accessible. In 1812 and 1813 he was sent to an academy at Woodstock, Conn., where among his school-mates was the afterwards celebrated surgeon and clinical teacher, Dr. George McClellan, the father of Gen. George B. McClellan. In 1814 he was sent to a classical school at Clinton, N. Y. In the fall of 1816 he entered as a student the office of Dr. Thomas Fuller, of Cooperstown, the leading physician of that vicinity. Here he alternated severe study with horse-back rides in company with his preceptor, receiving the double benefit of health and the acquisition of professional knowledge in the form of clinical instruction and observation — an educational advantage not lightly to be estimated. He never had the benefit of systematic lectures in college, a fact which he always lamented. In 1819 he removed to Preble in this county where he duly commenced the practice of medicine. In February, 1820, he returned to Cooperstown and was licensed to practice medicine by the Otsego County Medical Society. About 1821 or 1822 he removed to Homer, where, for about sixty years, he continued the practice of his profession. In October, 1820, he was elected a member of the Cortland County Medical Society. Six years afterward he was chosen secretary of that society, an office which he held for forty-five years consecutively, when, from increasing disability from deafness, he resigned, but was still continued in the office of treasurer until 1881, when he declined a re-election, having permanently removed to Syracuse. At the time of his resignation as secretary the society passed resolutions expressive of its high estimate of the faithful and intelligent manner in which he had performed the duties of secretary and treasurer and of how much of the prosperity of the society was due to his vigilant administration. In 1841 Dr. Bradford was elected a delegate to the State Medical Society for four years and in 1847 was elected a permanent member of that society, and the same year was elected one of the delegates to the American Medical Association, which then met in Philadelphia and where he became a permanent member of that body at the time of its permanent organization. In 1858 he was elected vice-president of the State Medical Society with his associate, the accomplished Brinsmade, in the president's chair — declining the

solicitation of the nominating committee to accept the nomination for the presidency.

Besides those that strictly related to his profession, he was the recipient of various honors military, civil and literary. In 1851 he was elected as Member of Assembly of the State Legislature, where he proved himself to be an industrious and capable member of several committees and especially of the one on medical colleges and societies. In November, 1863, he was elected to the State Senate, and in 1855 was re-elected to the same position. An interesting chapter might be written of his perseverance and tact in securing the passage of the bill providing for anatomical *matériel* for medical colleges (his celebrated "Bone Bill") and for the establishment and maintenance of various educational and benevolent institutions. In 1856 he was elected a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and in the same year was elected to membership in the Wisconsin Historical Society, to the library of which he in after years contributed several valuable historical works. In 1858 Genesee College conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts. Some of the most important services of his long and busy life were those given to Cortland Academy, at Homer, to the trusteeship of which he was elected in 1832, a position which he held for thirty-eight years. In conjunction with the late Dr. Woolworth, for many years its principal, he rendered most efficient service in the cause of education as well as in every work of benevolent enterprise and Christian endeavor. In 1864 as a member of the electoral college he cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln. Dr. Bradford was often called upon to act as secretary of various societies and kept the records of the County Bible Society for about forty years.

At the request of the Cortland County Medical Society in 1880 — it being the sixtieth anniversary of his connection with the society — he gave a summary of the changes which had occurred during that period in the practice of medicine.

From the first years of his professional life Dr. Bradford became a generous patron of medical literature. About 1820 he became the constant reader of *The Philadelphia Journal of the Medical & Physical Sciences* until the change of its title to that of *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* in 1827, which he continued to read, as well as many other journals, up to 1881, the time of his removal from Homer. It is not difficult to perceive that one who thus furnishes his mind with the best thoughts and a record of the most recent discoveries and observations of the leading minds in the profession, must be well grounded in the principles which should guide him. As a writer said of him in a local journal in 1876: "He is *not* of the '*old* school' for his school is like the Lord's mercies, '*new* every morning.'" In general literature he was the reader of the best books and journals. In common with many of our profession he was much interested in all departments of natural science, but made a specialty of botany, and many years ago made a report to the Regents of the University on the plants of Cortland county.

It will be seen from Dr. Bradford's habits of reading and study that his library must have grown with his years and as he chose well his collection, must have been not only large but valuable. It was one of the largest medical libraries in Central New York, if, indeed, it did not excel any other. He had a plan, which rapidly growing infirmity allowed him to carry out only in part, viz.: the distribution of his books among his medical friends, knowing full well that, however rare and valuable, when on the auctioneer's counter they would count for little more than the coarsest paper stock.

On the 17th of March, 1818, Dr. Bradford was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Walker, of Middlefield, Otsego county, N. Y. They had three children. The eldest, a son who died in infancy at Cooperstown. The next, Emeline M., the accomplished wife of Wm. W. Northrop, esq., of New York city, and Helen Sabina, who died in March, 1841, aged 17 years. On the 17th of March, 1868, Dr. and Mrs. Bradford celebrated their Golden Wedding, "upon which occasion a large number of their neighbors and friends honored themselves and their esteemed hosts by their presence, congratulations and gifts." Mrs. Bradford survived this joyous event but six years. On the 26th of November, 1874, at 7 o'clock in the morning "the golden bowl was broken."

In middle life Dr. Bradford was what is denominated tough, wiry, enduring. In early life he was delicate, but by horse-back riding, most rigid temperance in eating and drinking and great regularity of habits — or habits as regular as a busy medical practitioner could observe in all hours, times and seasons — he acquired great powers of resistance against the adverse influences of exposure and fatigue. But to us he seemed reckless as to personal protection, for not until 1864 would he wear, even in the coldest weather of winter, either overcoat or gloves. In July, 1863, while treating the gangrenous wound of a soldier just returned from the field of Gettysburg, he suffered septic poisoning through an abrasion on his right hand, which resulted in long continued and fearful inflammation with thecal abscesses of the palm and fingers, loss of tendons, contractures and ankylosis and the consequently dangerous prostration, rendering the prognosis for a long time doubtful and the public mind full of anxious inquiry as to his condition and prospects. We cannot better describe Dr. Bradford as he appeared in his prime than to quote an account given by his former pastor, the Rev. T. K. Fessenden, who was intimately associated with him in every good word and work for several years. He says: "When I first knew him in 1842 he was, I think, between forty and fifty years of age, diminutive in stature, not over nice in his dress and appearance, often blunt and even curt in his manner of speaking, but always truthful. There was a rare common sense in his views and mode of speaking. There was a pleasant smile on his countenance, a quiet humor in his remarks and in his social intercourse which made him a most genial companion, while his honesty, tenderness and manifest deep interest in his intercourse with the sick gained for him the confidence and love of those who employed him. He had a great abhorrence of quackery and trickery, and this often led him to speak of it in not very complimentary terms — sometimes so as needlessly to offend. But I think the largest portion of the best people of Homer then employed him and regarded him as a wise, skillful, entirely trustworthy and successful physician. I had occasion to know much of his religious character. No one could be an inmate of his family and not see that the one great aim of his life was to do the will of God. He was a generous supporter of charitable and religious objects and institutions. There was not a more liberal and public spirited donor to benevolent objects, in proportion to his means, in the congregation or community. He was a friend to whom all classes could go with the assurance of kindness and sympathy in their troubles. He did not reap a harvest of wealth; men of the world might feel that his life work was not conspicuous or eminently successful, but when tested by the true standard, — by personal worth, by professional fidelity, by the confidence and love of the good in the community in which he lived and by the bless-

ings which have flowed from his character and sacrifices for the good of others, I believe he will receive the approval 'well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"

The last two years and a half of his life were spent in Syracuse at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. Dow, who, with her mother, Mrs. Northrop, ministered lovingly to his comfort during the declining months of his life. The choicest portions of his library, medical and miscellaneous, were arranged in cases about the walls of his room, so that he might still feel that he was at home with his friends about him and with his books and journals, and although memory was mostly gone, he daily enjoyed brief and pleasant converse. And thus life ebbed away. Late in the night of October.30th, 1883, he was resting as quietly as an infant on its mother's breast. When light broke on the earth on the morning of the 31st, it was found that the wheels had ceased to move, — he was at rest.

The funeral services were held in the Congregational Church in Homer in the afternoon of November 2d, and which were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. W. A. Robinson, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Edward Hitchcock, who pronounced a brief but appropriate discourse on the occasion from Heb. iv: 9. In speaking of Dr. Bradford he said: —

"Few lives furnish richer material for stimulating biography. On its title-page could be fairly written; 'The upright citizen; the skillful physician; the conscientious representative; the wise legislator; the pure patriot; the zealous reformer; the conservative thinker; the patient investigator; the progressive scholar; the judicious adviser; the faithful friend; the sympathetic helper; the large-hearted philanthropist; the conscientious, consistent Christian man.'"

His medical brethren bore his remains to their final rest in the beautiful Glenwood Cemetery, and then assembled to pass memorial resolutions.

Dr. Phineas H. Burdick, of Preble, was born in De Ruyter, Madison county, N. Y., June 3d, 1800.

His father was a farmer of moderate means and was able to give his son only the advantages which the common school could afford him, and that mainly during the winter months, working on the farm during the summer. But his ambition to become a *teacher* stimulated him to push his studies with such vigor that he was early qualified to assume the duties of that calling. His wages, whether earned on the neighbors' farms or in the school-room, during his minority, were always returned to his father, so that at his majority, "with weakened physical powers, penniless, unaided and alone, he set forth to the acquirement of a noble profession," determined to succeed, "which, with alternate study and teaching, together with the strictest economy, he accomplished in due time, with no mean acquirements, as attested by his life-work."

His medical studies were had in the office of Dr. Hubbard Smith, of De Ruyter, and Dr. Jehiel Stearns, of Pompey, — the latter for many years the leading surgical authority in Central New York. He attended medical lectures in the college at Castleton, Vt., but did not complete the course requisite for graduation. He was licensed to practice medicine by the Onondaga County Medical Society in 1828, and commenced the duties of his profession in Scott in this county during the same year; also in 1828 becoming a member of the Cortland County Medical Society. "He was twice married; first to Miss Sally Dyer, of Homer, who, not long after, died of small-pox, contracted from the messenger who came to obtain the services of the doc-

tor. Two years later he was married to Miss Laura J. Phelps, daughter of Judge Jabez B. Phelps, who was also a physician, but never engaged in the practice of medicine."

In 1833 Dr. Burdick removed to Preble, where he lived and labored up to the time of his sickness and death — a period of thirty-seven years. His early professional life, as that of many other young physicians, witnessed severe struggles with poverty. "During several of the earlier years of professional life he rode wholly on horseback, being unable to purchase a vehicle to ride in. The first carriage he ever owned he bought for *five dollars* — a rattling, rickety thing, but he said he felt proud of it — it was *his*."

"By assiduity in business he was crowned with success and at length acquired a competence quite equal to that attained by country physicians; though, through manifold charities, he had unquestionably given away much more than his accumulated property. He was a cheerful giver, often bestowing more liberally than his means would warrant."

Though suffering from difficulty of breathing and other infirmities, he continued to attend diligently to the duties of his profession until a few weeks before his death, giving himself little relaxation from work, rarely taking a vacation.

Amid all his labors he took great interest in public affairs and especially in the condition of the common schools of the town, making his early experience as a teacher available in the interest of a higher standard of education. For several years he was superintendent of public schools. For several years during the administrations of Jackson and Van Buren he served as postmaster. Aside from these instances he steadily refused any political preferment.

He was for forty-two years a member of the County Medical Society and always very punctual in attendance at its meetings, contributing to its proceedings and serving it as delegate to the New York State Medical Society for four years, and of which he was elected a permanent member in 1853. He was also sent as delegate to the American Medical Association, of which he became a permanent member. In 1851 the Regents of the University conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Strict integrity was among his characteristics. He was eminently a religious man. "For the last thirty years of his life he was a most exemplary professing Christian, and for the last decade a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church."

For the last eight years of his life he was able to leave much of the burden of his work to his son, Dr. Daniel W. Burdick, who had graduated at Geneva Medical College in 1862.

"Yet he maintained his interest in his profession, read his medical journals and continued business to some extent until September, 1869, which, and the following month of October, he spent in traveling in the western part of the country. It was by exposures during this journey that he added to his previous trouble of shortness of breath on taking active exercise, and a troublesome cough which continued to increase after his arrival home; and by the first of February, 1870, he was confined to his house, most of the time unable to lie down, — sleeping in the erect posture and suffering terribly at times from paroxysms of dyspnœa. He had all the signs of hypertrophy of the heart and valvular lesions, with pulmonary congestion, hydrothorax and general anasarca.

"After about eight weeks of the most intense suffering, which was borne throughout with the same evenness of temper and Christian fortitude that had ever character-

ized him, in the triumph of living faith, he died March 28th, 1870. At his funeral, on the 30th, the whole community seemed to turn out, and especially the old men and women of the town, to whom for so many years he had been a devoted and sympathizing friend — in a sense, a confessor, and a judicious adviser in times of trouble."

At a meeting of the members of the County Medical Society, present on the occasion of the funeral, suitable resolutions were passed, commemorative of the services and virtues of their deceased brother, and Dr. H. C. Hendrick, of McGrawville, was requested to prepare a memorial sketch of Dr. Burdick, to be presented at a subsequent meeting of the society. At the meeting of the society, December 14th, 1870, Dr. Hendrick read a highly interesting memorial record, which was communicated to the State Medical Society and published in its Transactions for 1871.

Dr. Horace Bronson, of Virgil, was of Scotch descent.

He was born at Catskill, N. Y., September 8th, 1796. When four or five years of age the family removed to Vernon, Oneida county, N. Y. Here he had his early education in the common schools of the place and was an apt scholar, developing when quite young a taste for natural history studies. It appears that he became a member of Hamilton College, but did not complete the curriculum of college studies by graduation. During his college course he devoted much attention to chemistry and became much attached to Dr. Noyes, the professor in that department. We are not able to give the date of his commencing the study of medicine, but it was in the office of Dr. Lewis Riggs, then of Vernon, and probably completed in the office of Dr. Hastings, of Clinton; nor the date of his first connection with the Medical College at Fairfield, N. Y., where it is said he attended four full courses of lectures and graduated in 1819. He spent much time with Dr. Hadley, the professor of chemistry and materia medica, working in the college laboratory and pushing his inquiries into chemistry and pharmacy, as well as botany, geology, and mineralogy. His love for the natural sciences continued through his whole professional life. He made extensive collections and his cabinet was rich in the departments of mineralogy and paleontology. One of his red-letter periods was a visit from Professor Emmons, of Albany, one of the distinguished geologists of the State Natural History Survey, and who was indebted to Dr. Bronson for the determination of important scientific facts relating to his specialty.

Sometime, probably in 1820, he visited his former friend and instructor, Dr. Lewis Riggs, of Homer, who advised him to settle in Virgil, which he did soon after. He became a member of the County Medical Society on the 17th of October, 1821. At that time there was only one other member of the society who had received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and that, as before mentioned, was Dr. Miles Goodyear, of Cortland.

Dr. Bronson had but few professional neighbors when he began the practice of medicine, and those often inaccessible in an emergency. He was thus thrown on his own resources, which a sound mind and thorough professional training enabled him to marshal effectively. In the departments of surgery and obstetrics, especially the latter, he was eminently successful.

He held the obligations required by the principles of medical ethics in very high regard.

"He was very forbearing to those whom he had aided, and lost much in the delinquency of his patients. He was a good citizen, hospitable to his acquaintances and



Frederick Hyde

generous to the needy. He was a friend to the cause of education and also a strong friend of temperance and kindred reformatory causes. He sustained a high reputation as a man of integrity." He was for many years a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

For several years he was conscious of a steadily advancing cardiac trouble, which grew worse in the latter half of 1873 and terminated his useful life on the 30th of January, 1874. At the next meeting of the County Medical Society, in June, 1874, his distinguished pupil, Dr. Frederick Hyde,[1] read a highly interesting biographical sketch of him.

One of the most astute and popular practitioners among the early physicians of this county was Dr. Azariah Blanchard, of Truxton. He became a member of the County Society in 1821 and continued the practice of medicine in Truxton for about twenty-five years, when he removed in 1846 to Milwaukee, Wis., where he continued his professional work for several years and until the infirmities of age compelled him to desist. He died in 1868, full of years and honors and rich in the esteem and affection of his numerous acquaintances. A Milwaukee journal in noticing his decease said: "Dr. Blanchard has been a resident of Milwaukee twenty-two years, and we can say without exaggeration that no man ever lived in this community who had fewer enemies — we might say he had none, for his daily life was marked by such a guileless simplicity and Christian conduct in all his relations, which justly rendered him a most estimable and beloved citizen. His heart was warm, not merely toward his fellow-men, but toward his country. During the war his patriotic sympathies were always alive, and like a good man he prayed to live to witness the crowning triumph of the nation."

Dr. Lyman Eldredge, of Cincinnatus, became a member of the County Society in 1829, having been licensed by the Herkimer County Society. For many years he was an extensive practitioner and kept himself well posted in the literature of his profession.

Dr. Eleazer H. Barnes, of Marathon, became a member of the County Society in 1840, and pursued his profession for many years with diligence and success. For the last few years, owing to increasing physical disabilities, he has mainly retired from practice.

Dr. Homer O. Jewett was born in Lebanon, Madison county, N. Y., and when he was twelve years of age his father removed to Homer in this county. His father was a native of Lanesboro, Mass., being the son of one of the Revolutionary heroes who faithfully served his country throughout that war.

Dr. Jewett had the usual experiences of the farmer's boy of his period — constant work and rigid economy. The farm which his father purchased is now the site of Glenwood Cemetery.

Besides the limited opportunities of the common schools he enjoyed the advantages of the academy at Homer under the administration of Prof. Samuel B. Woolworth, to whose counsel and encouragement he attributes much of the success that may have resulted from his educational course.

When, in his eighteenth year, his father sold his farm and retired from business, leaving to his son the wide world for a portion, the son turned his attention to teaching, and while pursuing the business of the pedagogue he began the study of medicine, but before going on with his medical course he still further extended and established his school education by two more terms in

[1] Sketches of the lives of Drs. Frederick Hyde and C. Green will be found in another portion of this work.

Cortland Academy. After this he entered the office of Dr. A. B. Shipman, alternating medical study with teaching in order to be able to defray the expenses of the lecture courses, much of the time devoting sixteen of the twenty-four hours to the business of teaching and study.

In the winter of 1841–42 he attended the first course of lectures ever delivered in the medical department of the University of the City of New York. He also attended the second course given there and graduated in March, 1843. The faculty of the medical department of the university at that time consisted of Drs. Valentine Mott, Martyn Paine, Granville Sharpe Pattison, John Revere, John W. Draper and Gunning S. Bedford, one of the most brilliant and successful bodies of teachers that ever graced the halls of medical learning in this country. Dr. Payne was his oracle —an oracle well chosen —and in him he saw only what was wise and noble and generous. He showed his pupil many kind attentions, proffering him the freedom of his private office, giving him several valuable works together with much safe advice —altogether and reasonably giving him the impression that he was a favorite pupil, all of which proved a healthful stimulus to his ambition.

After practicing a few weeks with his preceptor in the summer of 1843, he established himself at Summer Hill, Cayuga county, where he remained six years. Here he had a wide field and unobstructed and which he thoroughly and successfully cultivated, acquiring much valuable experience in the way of diagnostic skill and therapeutic tact.

In the summer of 1849 he removed to Cortland where he still pursues the duties of his calling.

For more than thirty years, and until within the last five or six, it was his rule never to refuse a call that he could attend, regardless of the condition of the patient, the inclemency of the weather, the condition of the roads, the time of the day or night, or the distance from home—a statement which will apply to a vast majority of medical practitioners who conscientiously and industriously devote themselves to the duties of their profession as the medical advisers and friends of the families in their respective neighborhoods.

Dr. Henry T. Dana was born in Fenner, Madison county, N. Y., in 1836, and was the youngest son of Judge Sardis Dana.

He received his early education at home and in the local schools, and later in the Cazenovia Seminary.

He became a private pupil of Dr. James H. Armsby, the distinguished professor of anatomy in the Albany Medical College, in which college he graduated in 1863. The same year he located in Tully, Onondaga county, where he practiced his profession until 1869 when, his health becoming impaired, he removed to Chicago, Ill., and resided in that city about three years. In 1872 he removed from Chicago to Cortland and resumed the practice of medicine which he still continues with increasing success.

In 1874 he was appointed U. S. examining surgeon for pensions and held that position until the fall of 1883, when a board of examining surgeons was appointed and on its organization he was elected its president. In 1877 he was elected president of the County Medical Society.

The Cortland County Medical Society was ably represented in the medical branch of the army service during the War of the Rebellion.

Dr. Judson C. Nelson, of Truxton ranks his fellow surgeons of this county in point of time of enlistment.

Dr. Nelson was born in Danby, Tompkins county, N. Y., June 3d, 1824. His

father, the Rev. Caleb Nelson, was, for many years, the pastor of the Baptist Church in Danby, afterwards living in Spencer and Candor, Tioga county.

Dr. Nelson was educated in the common schools of Tioga county.

In medicine he was educated in Geneva, where he was the private pupil, for three years, of Dr. Thomas Spencer, then the distinguished professor of the institutes and practice of medicine in Geneva Medical College, in which institution he attended three courses of lectures, graduating in January, 1848. On the 20th of the ensuing November he was married to Miss Henrietta S. Walter, of Newark, Tioga county.

In March, 1848, he commenced the practice of medicine in Truxton, where he has since pursued his professional work with unusual success and popularity.

He was elected a permanent member of the State Medical Society in 1875. He is also a member of the Central New York Medical Association, as well as of the Cortland Medical Society.

"At the breaking out of the Rebellion, in 1861, he began enlisting men in his own and adjoining towns, first for the 23d Regt. N. Y. S. Vols., and then for the 76th Regt. N. Y. S. Vols., to which he was commissioned as surgeon Dec. 11th, 1861." He served his regiment faithfully when, owing to failing health, from a severe illness due in part to severe work and also to the effect of the climate, he was obliged, on the 11th of July, 1862, at Fredericksburg, Va., to resign his position in the regiment altogether and return to his home, as the medical officers of his division and himself believed, a confirmed invalid. After spending some time, however, at Avon Springs, he so far recovered that early in January, 1863, and by special contract with the surgeon-general, he entered upon the duties of a medical officer in the U. S. General Hospital, Department of Washington, in which capacity he occupied several positions of trust and responsibility. He first served as ward physician in Trinity General Hospital until its discontinuance in April, 1863, then in Mount Pleasant General Hospital until December, 1863, when he was put in charge of the Regular Army Post Hospital on the Potomac, opposite Mt. Vernon, where he remained until the following April, when he was relieved by the regular surgeon of the post. "He was then ordered to Finley General Hospital and put in charge of three surgical wards, where a large amount of operative surgery devolved upon him and where he remained (with the exception of two weeks on duty with Surgeon Antisell in attending the sick and wounded officers who reported there from the front during the great battles of the Wilderness, Cold Harbor and Petersburg) until the expiration of his term of service in November, 1864.

"On retiring from the hospital Dr. Nelson received the public thanks of the surgeon in charge for his faithful attendance to duty and from the inmates of his wards a very valuable case of amputating and general operating instruments as a testimonial of their appreciation of his services in their severe trials and afflictions.

"He was in the battle of Fort Stevens, one of the defenses of Washington, July 12th, 1864, when Generals Early and Breckenridge made their famous assault on that city."

Dr. Nelson has always been a Democrat, though during a portion of the war period he voted with the Republicans. He has held the office of supervisor of his town since 1872 — now on the thirteenth year of continued service.

In the fall of 1875 he was elected as Member of Assembly in its 99th session, 1876; and again in the fall of 1882 to its

106th session, 1883. At the session of '83 he served as chairman of the committee on the public health and also on the committee on charitable institutions.

On the 20th of June, 1883, he was married the second time to Miss Florence Irwin Snyder, of Middleburg, Schoharie county, N. Y.

Dr. Henry C. Hendrick, of McGrawville, is of English Puritan stock, whose characteristics modified and softened in the course of their history, have been fairly preserved to the present generation. His grandfather, Joel Hendrick — born in 1772 — removed from Southington, Conn., to Guilford, Chenango county, N. Y., when a young man — was one of the pioneers of that town and reared his family there. His son, Leontes, the father of the doctor, was born there in 1796; removed to Coventry in the same county in 1832 when the subject of this sketch was between four and five years old. Dr. Hendrick was born in Guilford, September 11th, 1827. He attended the village district school and sometimes what was called a "select school," and several terms at the Oxford Academy. He became a teacher and taught in the district and select schools some twelve terms. This has given him an interest in schools and he has ever since been more or less connected with school boards

He studied medicine with his brother, the late Dr. E. F. Hendrick, of Danbury, Conn., who was a prominent surgeon in the war of 1861, serving as surgeon of the 15th Conn. Vols.

Dr. Hendrick attended a course of lectures in Geneva Medical College in 1852 and graduated in the medical department of the University of Michigan in 1853; practiced medicine in Willet four years; removed to McGrawville in December, 1857, where he still resides.

He entered the military service in the War of the Rebellion in the summer of 1862, receiving his commission from Gov. Morgan as surgeon of the 157th Regt. N. Y. Vols., August 15th 1862; served in that capacity nearly three years and was mustered out July 31st, 1865.

He served in extra service as follows: On staff of Gen. Carl Schurz in charge of 3d Division 11th Corps Hospital at Brooks's Station, Va., from March, 1863, to the 23d of June following. Was assigned by Medical Director Suckley in general charge of the dressing department of 11th Corps Hospital, third and fourth days of the battle of Gettysburg. Assigned as one of the medical examining board, Folly Island, S. C., Sept. 21st, 1863. October 21st, 1863, was made chairman of special examining board to inquire into the sanitary condition of certain regiments on Folly Island. On the 16th of January, 1864 appointed chief medical officer 2d Brig., Folly Island. In March, 1864, was post surgeon at Jacksonville, Fla., and in April, 1864, post surgeon at Fernandina. On the 13th of July, 1864, appointed member of medical examining board at Hilton Head, S. C., and at the same place July 19th, 1864, was appointed chief medical officer of Provisional Brigade. August 24th, 1864, appointed post surgeon, Hilton Head, chief medical officer of "District of Hilton Head, Fort Pulaski, Beaufort, St. Helena and Tybee Island." October 24, 1864, appointed post surgeon in charge of troops and Confederate prisoners (600 officers) at Ft. Pulaski, Ga. January 11th, 1865, was placed in charge of Field Hospital No. 1, Coast Division, S. C.

At the close of the service he was commissioned "Lieutenant-Colonel by Brevet for meritorious service during the war" — his rank as surgeon being "Major of Cavalry."

On calling to say good-bye to his friend, the medical director of the department, he

handed him the subjoined document, which was certainly a handsome recognition of the doctor's faithful and efficient services during the war: —

"OFFICE OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR,
"DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.
"HILTON HEAD, S. C., July 12, 1865.
"To Surgeon HENRY C. HENDRICK,
"157th Regt., N. Y. Vols.
"Sir,

"On your being mustered out of the service of the U. S. — the term of enlistment of your regiment having expired, it gives me great pleasure to testify to your uniform excellent conduct as an officer and gentlemen since you have been on duty in this department, and to the able manner in which you have discharged your official duties.

"Very Respectfully,
"Your Obedient Servant,
"MEREDITH CLYMER,
"Lieut. Col. U. S. Vols., and
"Med. Director, D. S."

On being mustered out of service the doctor returned to the peaceful duties of his profession which he had patriotically left three years before.

Dr. Hendrick has been twice married — first to Miss Eliza J. Mooney, of Willet, who died June 12th, 1858; and again September 5th, 1860, to Miss Marinda McGraw, daughter of the late Harry McGraw, of McGrawville.

Dr. Hendrick is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and for the past fifteen years has been an elder in that church.

Dr. James W. Hughes was born in Mendon, Monroe county, N. Y., May 23d, 1832. He pursued his preparatory studies in Cortlandville Academy, teaching a portion of the time in the village schools, and a year and a half in northern Mississippi, and entered Williams College in 1856. He subsequently was professor of mathematics in Cortlandville Academy, devoting his spare hours to the study of medicine with Dr. Miles Goodyear, and, after attending two courses of lectures in the University of the City of New York, he graduated in 1863. In September of the same year he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 59th Regiment N. Y. Vet. Vols., and entered on his duties at once. In May, 1864, he was detailed for duty in the division field hospital, and had charge of two of its wards until August, when he was promoted to the more important and responsible position of one of the division operating staff. On the 4th of March following he was commissioned surgeon of the 152d Regiment N. Y. Vols., and on the 25th of the same month was, by order of Major-General Francis C. Barlow, made division surgeon, and put in charge of the division field hospital, in which position he served until the close of the war.

On being mustered out he returned to his home in Cortland and commenced the practice of medicine, and still continues his professional work in that place.

In natural history Dr. Hughes "follows in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor," the venerated Goodyear, in his taste for botany and horticulture. His familiarity with the flora of Cortland county renders him an authority in that department.

He keeps his library well supplied with the latest and best professional books and journals.

As a physician he is faithful in his devotion to the interests of his patients.

Dr. Hughes is an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. John H. Knapp was born in 1819. Studied medicine in the office of Drs. White & Lyman, of Sherburne, and was licensed to practice in the spring of 1843. Having practiced in Marathon and Etna, he finally fixed his residence at Harford, where he has largely enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community as a physician and citizen.

He united with the County Medical So-

ciety in 1858, and was its president in 1861 and again in 1867.

In 1855 Dr. Knapp represented his county in the Legislature as Member of the Assembly, and has also served his town in the Board of Supervisors.

In May, 1863, he was appointed by President Lincoln as surgeon of the board of enrollment for the 23d New York Congressional district, and remained as such to the close of the war, — having examined in that time probably over 6,000 men.

Dr. John D. Tripp, of Virgil, was born in Dryden, N. Y., August 15th, 1843. His preparatory education was received in the common school and in Dryden Academy.

He enlisted in the army in September, 1861, was injured in Fort Totten, and discharged in 1862; returned to Dryden and commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Isaac S. Briggs; attended medical lectures at Geneva, and in the spring of 1864 was examined and appointed medical cadet. During the winter of 1864–65, was assigned to the department of the east, with headquarters at New York city, and, by doing night duty, was permitted to attend the spring session of lectures at Long Island College Hospital, and graduated from that institution in June, 1865. He then did duty for a time as assistant surgeon.

In October, 1865, he settled in Virgil, where he continues the practice of his profession. He became a member of the County Medical Society, June, 1866, and in 1878 was elected its president. He has read before the society several interesting papers, more especially on the recent discoveries in the functions of the nervous system.

The County Society has always maintained a representation in the State Medical Society as well as in the American Medical Association, and in the District Medical Associations of Central New York, also in the neighboring county medical societies.

The society adopted the code of ethics of the American Medical Association after the organization of the latter in 1847, which had also been adopted by the State Society, so that it was, in the matter of ethics, in conformity with the State and national societies.

But when, in 1882, the State Society, at a thinly attended meeting, but packed for a purpose, adopted what is called the "new code," against the most serious and earnest protests and warnings of the minority present, as well as against a large majority of the constituent county societies, — refusing to postpone the consideration of the subject for even one night, — the Cortland County Medical Society refused to comply with the demand of the State Society to revise its code of ethics so that it should conform to that of the State Society. By a large majority — twenty-three to four — the County Society stands by the national code, and is largely represented in the new State Medical Association.

The society in its meetings, annual or semi-annual, has, with few exceptions, held its proceedings and discussions in a most harmonious spirit. It has been the aim of its members at such times to elicit and impart practical information, — to draw out the valuable results of individual experience, observation and study, while a healthy *esprit de corps* has been maintained.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF MEMBERS.

Name	Date of Election
Lewis S. Owen	1808
John Miller	1808
Luther Rice	1808
Elijah G. Wheeler	1808
Robert D. Taggart	1808
Ezra Pannel	1808
Allen Barney	1808
Jesse Searl	1808

Mordecai Lowe 1809
Joseph Sawtell 1812
Levi Boies 1812
John Lynde 1813
Marcius Simmons 1815
Joel R. Carpenter 1817
Peleg B. Peckham 1818
Miles Goodyear 1818
Lewis Riggs 1818
Alvan Ryan 1819
Oliver P. Raymond 1820
Geo. W. Bradford 1820
Azariah Blanchard 1821
Horace Bronson 1821
Elias P. Metcalf 1822
Joseph H. Ellis 1823
Eleazer W. Crain 1824
Joseph Ballard 1826
Hiram N. Eastman 1828
Phineas H. Burdick 1828
Alanson Burroughs 1828
Turnis Turner 1828
Sylvester F. Pelton 1828
Harvey Houghton 1828
Archelaus Green 1828
Daniel M. Wakely 1828
Hubbel Fox 1828
Corrington Babcock 1828
Robert C. Owen 1828
Isaac Noyes 1828
Arabert B. Smith 1828
Alanson Owen 1829
Lyman Eldredge 1829
Constantine P. Weaver 1830
Isaac S. Briggs 1830
Daniel Havens 1830
Hiram Brockway 1831
Henry Williams 1831
Marsena Terry 1831
Ira L. Babcock 1832
John Jeffrey 1833
Orvil P. Laird 1833
Frederick Hyde 1833
Azariah B. Shipman 1833
George W. Maxson 1833
Melvin A. Webster 1834
Francis A. Decker 1834
William M. Freeman 1834
Christopher L. Main 1836
Ashbel Patterson 1836
Edwin P. Healy 1838
Jonathan W. Jones 1839
Eleazer H. Barnes 1840
David W. Houghtaling 1840
Hiram Wiggins 1840
Joseph Shipman 1841
Leander Green 1841
William J. Wilson 1842
Franklin T. Mayberry 1842
Lysander B. White 1842
Anson B. Caul 1843
Henry P. Eells 1844
Lyman H. Davis 1844
Caleb Green 1845
James Finn 1845
George N. Woodward 1846
W. B. Sturtevant 1846
Charles N. Kingman 1846
Titus B. Davidson 1847
Charles Thomas 1848
William Fitch 1849
Lorenzo J. Keen 1850
Daniel E. Foot 1852
Marcellus R. Smith 1853
Charles H. Swain 1853
Dix A. Shevalier 1853
Franklin Goodyear 1854
Henry C. Hendrick 1855
William H. Niles 1855
Charles S. Richardson 1858
A. D. Read 1858
J. H. Knapp 1858
Jerome Angel 1858
T. C. Pomeroy 1859
G. L. Newcomb 1862
D. W. Burdick 1863
William Galagher 1863
I. D. Warner 1865
A. L. Head 1865
H. O. Jewett 1865
James W. Hughes 1866
J. D. Tripp 1866
William Witherell 1866
L. C. Warner 1867
N. R. Barnes 1867
J. C. Nelson 1867
De Forest Hunt 1867
S. C. Webb 1867

M. G. Hyde 1868
O. G. Dibble 1869
D. C. Waters 1869
William B. Niles 1871
George G. Bosworth 1871
Marcellus L. Halbert 1872
Henry T. Dana 1872
George D. Bradford 1875
Owen C. Hall 1875
Amasa Quivey 1875
J. B. McClellan 1876
Francis G. Wheelock 1877
Edward W. McBirney 1877
Dewitt C. Clark 1880
Herman D. Hunt 1880
Francis W. Higgins 1881
Charles E. Bennett 1882
Frank H. Green 1882

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF PRESIDENTS.

Lewis S. Owen 1808, 1820
John Miller 1820, 1821
John Lynde 1822
Lewis S. Owen 1823
Miles Goodyear 1824
Lewis Riggs 1825, 1826
Jesse Searl 1827
A. Blanchard 1828, 1829
Levi Boies 1830
Miles Goodyear 1831
Horace Bronson 1832
Lewis Riggs 1833
Miles Goodyear ..... 1834 to 1840
A. B. Shipman 1841
Miles Goodyear 1842
A. B. Smith 1843, 1844
Horace Bronson 1845
Lyman Eldredge 1846
Miles Goodyear 1847
P. H. Burdick 1848
Frederick Hyde 1849, 1850
P. H. Burdick 1851
Caleb Green 1852
C. M. Kingman 1853
Geo. W. Maxson 1854
L. J. Keen 1855
Geo. W. Bradford 1856
William Fitch 1857
John Miller 1858
F. Hyde 1859
C. M. Kingman 1860
J. H. Knapp 1861
Caleb Green 1862
Horace Bronson 1863
S. Beebe 1864, 1865
I. D. Warner 1866
J. H. Knapp 1867
J. C. Nelson 1868
S. C. Webb 1869
H. C. Hendrick 1870
Isaac S. Briggs 1871
E. H. Barnes 1872
H. O. Jewett 1873, 1874
M. G. Hyde 1875, 1876
H. T. Dana 1877
J. D. Tripp 1878
D. W. Burdick 1876
A. Quivey 1880, 1881
Marcellus R. Smith 1882, 1883
Charles E. Bennett 1884

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF SECRETARIES.

Jesse Searl ..... 1808 to 1820
Lewis Riggs ..... 1820 to 1823
Jesse Searl ..... 1823 to 1825
Geo. W. Bradford ..... 1825 to 1870
Caleb Green ..... 1870 to 1884

PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

Jerome Angel, ... Union Valley
E. H. Barnes, ... Marathon
Charles E. Bennett, ... Cortland
Isaac S. Briggs, ... Dryden, Tomp. Co.
Daniel W. Burdick, ... Homer
George D. Bradford, ... Homer
Dewitt C. Clark, ... Marathon
Henry T. Dana, ... Cortland
William Fitch, ... Dryden, Tomp. Co.
Caleb Green, ... Homer
Frank H. Green, ... Homer
M. L. Halbert, ... Cincinnatus
A. L. Head, ... Homer
H. C. Hendrick, ... McGrawville
F. W. Higgins, ... Truxton
James W. Hughes, ... Cortland
Herman D. Hunt, ... Preble
Frederick Hyde, ... Cortland
Miles G. Hyde, ... Cortland
Homer O. Jewett, ... Cortland
John H. Knapp, ... Harford
George W. Maxson, ... Scott

Edward W. McBirney,	Willet
Judson C. Nelson,	Truxton
A. D. Read,	Marathon
Marcellus R. Smith,	Cincinnatus
J. D. Tripp,	Virgil
Sumner C. Webb,	Homer

CHAPTER XVII.

SECRET SOCIETIES, ETC.

The Free and Accepted Masons of Cortland County — The First Lodge in the County — Its Old Records — Other Lodges Instituted — The Independent Order of Odd Fellows — Lodges and Officers — Other Societies.

THE orders of Odd Fellows, Masons, and others somewhat similar in character, have always been well represented in this county, and the different lodges now embrace many of the leading citizens; this is especially true of those ancient and honorable orders, the Free and Accepted Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The first Masonic Lodge in Cortland county (then Onondaga) was known as Homer Lodge No. 137, which was chartered by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York to brethren residing in the county and vicinity on the 9th day of May, 1806. Under this charter the lodge worked until June 6th, 1833, when the warrant was forfeited.

The old records of this lodge are still preserved by the present lodge in Homer and the charter was deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge but a few years ago, by L. E. Barker,[1] of Homer village. Hung in the lodge rooms at Homer are also the old warrant of Washington Chapter No. 29 Royal Arch Masons; also the warrant of the old Preble Lodge.

The next lodge in the county was instituted at Preble, its charter bearing the date of Nov. 10th, 1814; it was called Hesper Lodge No. 237 and was suspended June 5th, 1834.

On the 8th of January, 1821, a warrant was issued to Miles Dunbar, as master; Alanson Coats, senior warden; Arnold Hicock, junior warden, and other brethren, to hold a lodge in Truxton, to be called Truxton Lodge No. 333. The warrant was surrendered June 8th 1832.

A warrant was issued to Benjamin S. Campbell, master; Jabez B. Phelps, senior warden; Nathan Dayton, junior warden, and other brethren, on the 6th of June, 1823, to hold a lodge at Cortland (then in the town of Homer) by the name of Cortland Lodge No. 371. This lodge held its meetings at Port Watson, and the warrant was surrendered June 8th, 1832.

In June, 1825, a warrant was issued to Jacob Hemingway, master; Caleb Sherman, senior warden; Wm. Lincoln, junior warden, and other brethren, to hold a lodge in Virgil, to be called La Fayette Lodge No. 409. This lodge forfeited its charter June 8th, 1832.

A warrant was issued to Malicah Church, master; John Davis, senior warden; Barnabas Hastings, junior warden, and others, June 1st, 1825, to hold a lodge at Harrison (now Marathon) by the name of Western Union Lodge No. 417. The warrant was surrendered and work discontinued June 5th, 1835.

During the Anti-Masonic political cru-

[1] We are indebted to Mr. Barker for important assistance in this connection, and also to Geo. L. Warren, of Cortland village. Mr. Barker was Master of Homer Lodge from 1865 to 1871, and District Deputy Grand Master in 1870–71.

sade the order in this county, as in most other sections, remained dormant and so continued from about the date last mentioned during a period of more than twenty years. But in June, 1859, Cortlandville Lodge No. 470 was chartered. The following brethren were charter members: Joseph Reynolds, Horace Dibble, C. S. Mattison, R. H. Duell, S. R. Hunter, Franklin Goodyear, Horace L. Green, C. B. Chittenden, A. P. Smith, J. A. Schermerhorn, S. L. Thompson, O. V. Eldredge, B. Bulman and Josiah Hart, jr. This lodge has had a membership of over four hundred. The present officers are: S. S. Knox, W. M.; Fitz Boynton, S. W.; C. L. Kinney, J. W.; E. M. Keator, treasurer; Wm. F. Burdick, secretary; H. J. Harrington, S. D.; H. T. Hollister, J. D.; P. Van Bergen, tiler; J. J. Taggart, organist.

On the 20th of Sepetmber, 1854, Homer Lodge No. 352 was instituted under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, Joseph D. Evans, grand master, with the following charter members: Ashbel Patterson, M. D.; Cornelius B. Gould, Lyman Reynolds, E. C. Reed, Stephen Knapp, H. D. Patterson, Wm. R. Smith, Elijah Button, Elijah Baker, Josiah Patterson, Frank Richardson, M. F. Walpole, Elnathan W. Vanderlyn. On the 31st day of August, 1855, the lodge was duly constituted under a warrant and the following officers were installed by Geo. N. Williams, deputy grand master: Ashbel Patterson, master; Ella R. Stephens, senior warden; Hammil Thompson, junior warden; Wm. L. Sherman, treasurer; Josiah Patterson, secretary; A. W. Kingsbury, senior deacon; E. W. Vanderlyn, junior deacon; Jas. McNiel, tiler.

The present officers of the lodge are: Chas. E. Wills, W. master; R. A. Goodell, senior warden; Philo Jones, junior warden; John J. Murray, treasurer; Robert J. Watson, secretary; F. D. Carpenter, senior deacon; L. L. Rood, junior deacon; Isaac Smith, tiler. Geo. Murray, jr., C. H. Gillett and B. H. Griffin are the trustees. This lodge is incorporated.

Royal Arch Masonry. — The first Royal Arch Masonry of which we have any record in this county was in 1809, when a dispensation was granted to comps. George Rice, Hooker Ballard, Samuel Hoar, jr., and others to hold a lodge at Homer, by the name of Centre Mark Lodge No. 50. On the 7th of February, 1810, a warrant was issued to Geo. Rice, high priest; Asahel Minor, king; Reuben Washburn, scribe, and others, to hold a chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Homer by the name of Washington Chapter No. 29. This chapter was represented in the Grand Chapter by companion George Rice, Joshua Ballard, Joseph Crofoot, Jabez B. Phelps, Nathan Gillett, Luther Nicols, Benjamin Enos, Edward C. Reed, William Andrews, Benjamin Chamberlain and Orin Stimpson. The chapter could not withstand the Anti-Masonic prejudice and forfeited its charter, until the year 1865, when a dispensation was granted and the chapter revived.

On the 8th of February, 1866, a charter was granted to Roswell K. Bourne, high priest; S. Adams, king; Geo. L. Warren, scribe, and companions John W. Osgood, W. H. Crane, G. W. Davenport, R. W. Bourne and Horace Dibble, to hold a chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Cortland, to be called Cortland Chapter No. 194. There have been on the rolls of this chapter 102 members and the chapter is now in a flourishing condition. Following are the present officers: Geo. L. Warren, H. P.; A. Sager, K.; O. Hitchcock, S.; Fitz Boynton, treas.; W. F. Burdick, sec'y; C. E. Selover, C. of H.; W. D. Tisdale, R. A. C.; H. T. Dana, P. S.; Fitz Boynton, M. 3d V.; C. E. Ingalls, M. 2d V.; T. T. Bates, M. 1st

V.; P. Van Bergen, tiler; J. J. Taggart, organist.

Knights Templar. — The first and only Commandery of Knights Templar ever organized in the county is Cortland Commandery No. 50, Knights Templar, which was chartered in October, 1871, to the following named Sir Knights: W. H. Crane, Geo. L. Warren, A. Sager, J. D. Benton, Wm. F. Burdick, M. A. Rice, R. E. Hill, E. M. Seacord, A. B. Wooster, P. Van Bergen, Wm. S. Copeland, C. W. Kinne, M. J. Robinson, Seth Hobart. All these Sir Knights except two received the order of knighthood in St. Augustin Commandery 38, at Ithaca. The present officers are: Wm. F. Burdick, E. C.; R. C. Shattuck, general; Geo. L. Warren, capt. general; A. Sager, treas.; E. M. Seacord, sec'y; H. T. Dana, prel.; M. A. Rice, senior warden; D. C. Smith, junior warden; C. F. Thompson, st. br.; O. Hitchcock, sw. br.; Fitz Boynton, warder; C. F. Baldwin, C. E. Ingalls and Geo. W. Loomis, guards; P. Van Bergen, captain of the guard.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The first lodge of this order in Cortland county was instituted February 16th, 1847. The charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York on January 19th, 1847, to Tioughnioga Lodge, No. 263. The charter members were Lyman Reynolds, Isaac Fairchild, Horace P. Goodrich, John H. Ferguson and Wm. P. Randall. When the State was subsequently divided into the Northern and Southern Jurisdiction, or Grand Lodges, the number of this old lodge was changed to 50 of Northern New York. This is all the information we have been able to obtain relative to the first lodge of Odd Fellows in this county.

Homer Lodge No. 280 I. O. O. F., was instituted on the 30th of March, 1847, by R. F. Russell, D. D. G. M. of Cayuga District. The petitioners for the charter were D. H. Strickland, German Thompson, Wm. Dalrymple, Samuel Wallace and H. L. Bowen. The lodge proved very prosperous, increasing largely in numbers and in wealth, under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Northern New York. In August, 1866, the union of Northern and Southern New York was made; P. G. H. W. Blashfield was representative of Homer Lodge at that session, held in New York city. Subsequently it became necessary to renumber the lodges, which was done, Homer being changed to No. 99. On the 1st of March, 1875, lodge rooms were destroyed by fire with all their contents, causing a loss of one thousand dollars to the lodge, yet not one meeting was lost, for at the regular night of meeting the lodge took rooms in the Masonic Hall and continued to occupy them while the block was being rebuilt and a new hall fitted. Fortunately the lodge had a surplus fund to meet the emergency, so the new hall was furnished, and a balance of several hundred dollars left in the treasury.

The lodge still continues in a healthy condition. The present elective officers are C. F. Williams, N. G.; E. E. Warfield, V. G.: George S. Gilbert, secretary; S. P. Miller, treasurer.

Marathon Lodge No. 415 I. O. O. F., under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Northern New York, was instituted January 2d, 1852, and its first officers were: Nelson Roe, N. G.; Israel W. Taft, V. G.; Henry W. Burlingame, secretary. The lodge was run with uniform success until August 7th, 1877, when its lodge room and property were destroyed by fire, entailing a loss upon the institution of several hundred dollars. It was reorganized under a duplicate charter November 14th of the same year, but has never entirely regained its former prosperity.

When the Grand Lodges of Northern and Southern New York were consolidated, the number of the lodge was changed to 167, which it retains.

The present officers of the lodge are: Fred. S. Dellow, N. G.; Isaac Stevens, V. G.; Lewis A. Burgess, secretary.

Vesta Lodge No. 555, was instituted in Cortland, December 15th, 1870. The lodge meets Monday evenings in Odd Fellows' Hall. The present officers are: Charles B. Roethig, N. G.; I. Whiteson, V. G.; A. M. Delavan, secretary; D. C. Johnson, treasurer.

Elon Encampment meets also in Odd Fellows' Hall on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Its officers are: H. W. Blashfield, C. P.; Arthur Nelson, H. P.; S. N. Gooding, S. W.; F. G. Kinney, scribe; C. E. Ingalls, treasurer. The Encampment was instituted in 1871.

There are lodges of Odd Fellows now in existence in Cortland village, Marathon, Homer and Preble. There have also been several other lodges of the order, which have also since been suspended, of which we have no definite data.

CHAPTER XVIII.

COUNTY SOCIETIES, BUILDINGS, ETC.

The Cortland County Agricultural Society — Its First Fairs — List of its Presidents — The Cortland County Farmers' Club — Its Organization and First Officers — Value of its Work — List of Officers — The Cortland County Bible Society — The Young Men's Christian Association — County Buildings.

THE County Agricultural Society.— The formation of the first agricultural society in Cortland county in 1818 has been described in the general history, with the details of the first fair held. It is not known just when this first organization closed its career of usefulness, but it is probable that there was not a long interval between that event and the organization of the second society in 1838. It is conceded that to Henry Stephens, more than to any other person, is due the credit of making the first organization a success.

On the first day of October, 1838, a meeting was held at the court-house for the purpose of organizing the second and present agricultural society. Wm. Berry was chairman of this meeting and Henry S. Randall secretary. The first officers chosen were John Miller, president; Joseph Reynolds and Peter Walrad, vice-presidents; Rufus Boies, treasurer; Paris Barber, secretary. The first fair was held at the Eagle Tavern in Cortland village and was considered a success for that period, although it was considered necessary in 1840 to reduce the highest premium from $3 to $2. Jesse Ives was chosen president in 1841, and in the following year an appropriation was secured from the State, for the advancement of agricultural interests, through the medium of the society. The fairs were held at the court-house, in the Eagle Tavern, and perhaps elsewhere until the grounds in Homer village were secured. These were occupied until 1857, when the present tract of land between the villages was secured. Improvements have been made and buildings erected from time to time on these grounds, until now they are admirably adapted to their purposes and among the most commodious and convenient fair grounds in the State.

Following is a list of the presidents of the society who have been elected annually, beginning with the year 1841: Jesse Ives,

Dan Hibbard, Wm. Randall, Jedediah Barber, Rufus Boies, H. S. Randall, Amos Rice, James S. Leach, Peter Walrad, Hiram Hopkins, Noah Hitchcock, Anthony Freer, Paris Barber, Israel Boies, Alfred L. Chamberlain, Joshua Ballard, S. D. Freer, Manly Hobart, W. P. Randall, W. E. Tallman, S. D. Freer, Geo. Murray, Wm. A. Boies, H. B. Van Hoesen, C. C. Taylor, A. L. Chamberlain, F. H. Hibbard, A. D. Blodgett, H. Dennison, J. C. Carmichael, S. D. Freer, A. L. Merrill, James M. Smith (four successive years), James H. Clark, A. D. Blodgett, James M. Smith, L. J. Fitzgerald (1882–83), C. W. Gage, 1884.

The Cortland County Farmers' Club. — This organization was formed in the year 1878, through the call of a meeting at the office of John S. Barber, esq., for Wednesday, February 13th. Allen B. Benham was chosen temporary chairman of the meeting and T. Mason Loring temporary secretary. A. P. Rowley stated the object of the meeting, and on his motion the following officers were appointed: president, A. D. Blodgett; vice-president, Dwight H. Hitchcock; secretary, T. Mason Loring. On motion of James M. Smith, A. P. Rowley, was chosen treasurer. A. P. Rowley, A. B. Benham, Charles Copeland and T. Mason Loring were made a committee to prepare a code of by-laws. Chas. H. Price, one of the members, offered the gratuitous use of a room in Taylor Hall Block, for the temporary convenience of the club, and the first regular meeting was held there on the 23d day of February, 1878. At this meeting the following question was discussed: "Plaster, its uses and the time of applying it."

The club received numerous acquisitions to its membership during the first year of its existence, and its intelligent discussions of questions of importance to the farmers of the county awakened a good degree of interest. During its life of about six years the club have invited and been addressed by many able men, among whom may be named Prof. Roberts and Prof. Law, of Cornell University, Hon. Harris Lewis, president of the State Dairymen's Association, Mr. Powell, of Syracuse, James Root, of Skaneateles, and others.

In the membership of the club are many men who are both practical and theoretical farmers of distinction, who have given their best thoughts to the consideration of various important topics, either in carefully prepared papers, or in extemporaneous discussion. Among the more prominent of these we may mention Hon. B. F. Tillinghast, Hon. Stephen Patrick, A. D. Blodgett (president of the club since its formation), H. P. Goodrich, D. E. Whitmore, Dr. Kingman (veterinary surgeon), A. B. Benham, Le Roy Gillett, A. P. Rowley, T. Mason Loring, Charles Taylor, Dr. Jewett, Prof. J. H. Hoose, A. Sager, Prof. Milne, Robert Purvis, Martin Sanders, George Conable, Dr. Gazlay, B. S. Conger, M. F. Cleary, and many others.

The club has met every two weeks since its organization, except during the summer work season, and has accomplished an amount of good that is inestimable.

The efficiency displayed and the satisfaction given by the first officers of the club, as given above, is testified to by the fact that the president and treasurer have held their offices ever since their first election; H. P. Goodrich was vice-president for five years; while the secretary's office has been filled by C. M. Bean and W. A. Bean since the first election. Hon. B. F. Tillinghast is now the vice-president.

The Cortland County Sportsmen's Club. — This club was organized and incorporated in April, 1866, by J. A. Schermerhorn, J. C. Carmichael, J. S. Ormsby, F. E. Knight, M. H. Mills, W. R. Randall, D. C. McGraw, D. H. Burr, J. B. Fairchild, F. O. Hyatt, V. Carpenter and M. Coats.

The principal objects of the club were the preservation of game and fish in the county, the proper enforcement of the laws bearing upon that subject, and the general elevation of manly sports. In these directions the club accomplished excellent results, but it was dissolved about two years ago.

CORTLAND COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

This society was organized in Cortland village on the 27th of August, 1816. Its first officers were: Rev. Elnathan Walker, president; Elder Alfred Bennett, vice-president; William Sears, corresponding secretary; Jesse Searl, recording secretary; John Keep, treasurer. The society has accomplished much good, more than twenty thousand dollars having been contributed to the spread of the Bible.

In the *Cortland Observer*, printed at Homer village, of the date of September 24th, 1830, we find the following, which is of interest in this connection: —

"ANNIVERSARY. — The annual meeting of the Cortland Auxiliary Bible Society was holden at Cortland village on the 21st inst. An appropriate discourse was delivered by Rev. Alfred Bennet. The report of the directors was read by the Rev. Luke Lyons, by which it appears that fifty-seven destitute families in the county have been supplied by the society since the last annual meeting, besides fifty bibles which have been given to the poor by a generous individual; that the county has been nearly supplied; that a debt due the parent society has been paid; that $133 remain in the treasury, and that $422 have been transmitted to the American Society on the extra supply. . . . The officers chosen for the ensuing year are as follows: Rev. Luke Lyons, president; John Osborn, vice-president; Franklin Sherrill, corresponding secretary; Jesse Searl, recording secretary and treasurer.

"Directors — Rev. John Keep, Rev. Alfred Bennet, John Keep, esq., John Hubbard, Daniel Miller, Lemuel Dady, Rufus Boies, Gideon Hoar, Augustus Donnelly, Nathan Dayton, Samuel B. Hitchcock, Charles Chamberlain, Elisha Grow, Jared Babcock, Asa G. Atwater, Joseph L. Clapp."

The Young Men's Christian Association. — This association was organized March 17th, 1868, with the following charter members: A. F. Tanner, C. W. Collins, H. C. Smith, H. F. Benton, R. A. Smith, L. D. Garrison, J. A. Todd, J. D. Fredericks, W. H. Myers, T. E. Pomeroy, A. N. Rounsvell, Lewis Bouton.

Following were the first board of officers of the association: —

President — A. F. Tanner.

Vice-president — H. C. Smith.

Recording secretary — J. D. Fredericks.

Corresponding secretary — C. W. Collins.

Treasurer — R. A. Smith.

Directors — H. F. Benton, W. H. Myers, A. N. Rounsvell.

The first business meetings of the association were held in Fireman's Hall, and the first devotional meetings in the Squires block. Early in 1869 the association moved into rooms in Taylor Hall block, where they remained until February, 1882, when they again moved into the Schermerhorn block, and now occupy the entire third floor of that block. Four large rooms are used, including a parlor, gymnasium, reading room and prayer room.

The present membership, consisting of males only, is 130. The rooms contain about $200 worth of furniture, and furnish about the only attractive place for young men to spend their leisure to their profit. The rooms are open every day (except Sunday) from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. Bible classes, gospel and young men's meetings are held.

The present officers of the association are as follows: —

President — Elmer Bangs.

Vice-president — Dr. E. B. Nash.

Recording secretary — E. G. Gould.

General secretary — W. N. P. Dailey.

Directors — C. F. Brown, E. Jennings, C. E. Selover, W. D. Tuttle, B. L. Webb.[1]

THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

The memory of the old and insignificant structure, which served as a place of deposit for the valuable county records during a period of nearly sixty years, has not yet faded away; indeed, it is perpetuated by numerous lithographic prints which have been scattered through the county — an honor that probably would not have been paid the old building had its use not been prolonged until it actually became the laughing stock of citizens and strangers. But the imperative necessity for a new building became at length so pressing that in 1873 the Board of Supervisors appointed a committee to examine into the subject and report. With these initiatory steps Supervisor Matthias Van Hoesen, of Preble, was, perhaps, more prominently identified than other member of the board.

A preliminary report was made to the effect that a new clerk's office was needed (a self-evident fact), and that one of proper size and character could be built for from $15,000 to $18,000. The subject rested in abeyance until the next year (1874), when another committee was appointed with broader powers. Mr. Hicok, of Homer, made a proposition that, as the town of Homer would build and present to the county a suitable office, it was the duty of the board to accept the offer and locate it in that village. This proposition (which was the last flickering attempt to locate a portion of the county buildings in Homer) was rejected.

The last mentioned committee reported, in 1875, in favor of the erection of a two-story brick structure, fire-proof, and to be located either on the old site, or on land owned by the county just west of the court-house; the building to cost about $17,000. In December, 1875, the location was definitely fixed on the old site and proposals for the building were solicited. The bid of L. G. Viele was accepted by the building committee of the supervisors (composed of M. Van Hoesen, W. A. Bentley and D. McGraw) and the present handsome and convenient structure was erected. It was ready for occupancy in February, 1877, and the contents of the old building (which had been temporarily deposited elsewhere), were rearranged under the supervision of Deputy Howard J. Harrington and placed on file in excellent order. R. W. Bourne is the present county clerk, and Howard J. Harrington, who has been in the office for about sixteen years, is deputy.

CHAPTER XIX.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF HOMER.

THE town of Homer embraces a part of the original township No. 19 of the Military Tract (Homer) and lies on the western border and just north of the center of the county. It is bounded on the north by the towns of Preble and Scott; on the east by Truxton and Solon; on the south by Cortlandville, and on the west by Cayuga county.

The surface of the town is broken by the east and west branches of the Tioughnioga river and its two tributaries, Cold brook and Factory brook. The western part of the town

[1] This account of the Y. M. C. A. was kindly furnished by the general secretary.

consists of an elevated upland, rising to the height of fifteen hundred to sixteen hundred feet above the tide. The valley of the western branch of the Tioughnioga in the town is of nearly an average width of a mile, and is elevated one thousand and ninety-six feet above tide. The eastern valley is much narrower. A ridge of hills lies between these two valleys, ranging from two to five hundred feet in height above the Tioughnioga, and a similar ridge occupies the southwest corner of the town.

The soil of the river valleys is a deep, rich alluvial and dark loam, which is well adapted to tillage. On the hills it is a sandy or gravelly loam, better adapted for pasturage.

The township of Homer, when erected in 1794, and down to the year 1829, embraced the present town of Cortlandville. Prior to the year 1791, when Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe explored this beautiful valley, the territory now comprised within the boundaries of the town of Homer, as well as the surrounding vicinity, was known to the whites only on maps and charts, and though constituting a part of the State of New York, was considered, chiefly on account of its location, of but minor importance to settlers. Previous to its settlement by Todd and Beebe there was but a legendary history of the locality, consisting of reminiscences treasured in the memory of the scattered remnants of the Indian tribes who had occupied the banks of the Chenango and the Tioughnioga[1] rivers. The natural beauty of hill, dale and valley in this region, with the material advantages surrounding, soon, however, attracted other eyes than those of the red man, which led to the beginning of settlement on the site of the present quiet, rural village of Homer,[2] whose spires and domes lend additional attractiveness to the valley.

To record the events in the lives and early settlements of those hardy adventurers who first located on the banks of the Tioughnioga, or reared their cabins on the hillsides, is in part the task before us. Fortunately some records were kept of early events in this region, at a time when they were available and could receive verification. There also remain here and there the aged resident, whose memory reaches back to early days and whose co-operation has enabled us to give the principal facts connected with the history of this and other towns.[1]

The first settlers in the town of Homer, as they were also of the county, were Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe, the latter's wife Rhoda, and John Miller, whose experiences will be given a little farther on. In the spring of 1792 Mr. Miller, after a visit home, returned with John House, James Matthews, James Moore and Daniel Miller.

In 1793 Darius Kinney, Roderick Owen, John Ballard and Captain David Russell came into the town. In 1794 Jonathan Hubbard and Moses Hopkins (who located in the present town of Cortland) came in, and were followed in 1795 by Thomas L. and Jacob Bishop, Thomas Wilcox, Zebulon Keene, John Stone, Joshua Atwater, Libeus Andrews, John Keep, Solomon and John Hubbard, Thomas G., Ebenezer and Charles Alvord.

In 1797 Joshua Ballard, John Albright, Asa White and Caleb Keep came into the town, and in 1798 considerable accession was made to the population, by persons set-

[1] The name of the Tioughnioga, in the Indian language, was O'nan-no gu-s-ka, signifying "shagbark," or hickory.

[2] Homer was called by the Indians, "Te-wis-ta-no-ont sa-ne-ha," signifying, "the place of the silversmith."

[1] It is worthy of mention that the people of Homer have always been noted for their patriotism to their country, their religious character and their longevity; there still reside here a number of early settlers who have passed through the different stages of the history of the town, to its present condition of growth and prosperity; to them we are indebted for valuable assistance, and especially to Charles Kingsbury, Hosea Sprague, Thomas D. Chollar, and others.

tling in various parts of the territory, but more especially along the borders of the east and west branches of the river. While the names of all who came in after this date cannot probably be given, we can mention the following: Stephen Knapp, Daniel, Samuel and Gideon Hobart, Titus Stebbins, Samuel Hotchkiss, Dr. Lewis S. Owen, Deacon Noah Hitchcock, Zenas Lilly, Timothy Treat, Enos Stimson, William Lucas, Asahel Miner, Col. Benajah Tubbs, John and Richard Bishop.[1] These pioneers all came into the town prior to 1800, and constituted the beginning of the new settlement. They were the men who suffered many and great hardships, privations and inconveniences while subduing the wilderness, all the details of which it is impossible at this late day to obtain. Those who followed during the first quarter of the nineteenth century also endured privations and made sacrifices that are little realized at the present day. They all possessed aggressive spirits and labored not for themselves alone, but for their children and future generations as well. For this life and purpose they abandoned the hearthstones of their boyhood days, the endearments of social ties, cultivated associations and the many luxuries common to older settlements.

The forefathers of Homer could have been none other than men of enterprise, with positive characters and unfaltering determination, to have attained so high a degree of success in their efforts for the extension of civilization into what was then an unknown wilderness.

Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe, whose advent into the old town of Homer has been already alluded to, migrated from New Haven, Conn., and located at Windsor, Broome county, N. Y., during the year 1789. They explored the valley of the Tioughnioga in the summer of 1790 and in 1791 left Windsor to become the first settlers in Cortland county and, probably, in the town of Homer. They were accompanied by Mr. Beebe's wife, Rhoda, who was Todd's sister. The current narrative of the early experiences of these pioneers, as it has often been told and written, is as follows: —

Coming up the valley from the southward they selected the site for their primitive home just north of the present village of Homer, within a few rods of the bridge across the Tioughnioga, and nearly opposite the residence occupied in later years by Erastus Goodell. Their rude dwelling was composed mainly of poles and was, perhaps, twelve by fifteen feet in its dimensions. Before this temporary abode was finished their team strayed away into the forest. Leaving Mrs. Beebe alone, the two men set out in pursuit of the animals. Without any protection other than the four walls of her unsubstantial cabin, which was yet without roof or floor, and with no door save simply a blanket hung upon the poles to cover the opening, the brave woman remained alone three days and nights. During these long, lonely hours she is said to have retained a tranquil mind and received no annoyance save such as was caused by the howling wolves and occasional screaming panther, which at that time often made the nights hideous. She received but one call during the time the men were absent, and that was by a wolf which, being rather timid, only displaced the blanket door sufficiently to introduce his nose and take a survey of the apartment and the shrinking woman.

A severer trial, however, awaited this pioneer woman. During the following winter her brother and husband were compelled to return to Windsor for their household effects, etc. At the end of their jour-

[1] Several of these pioneers settled within the present limits of Cortlandville and became identified with that locality. See history of that town.

ney they were snow bound for a period of six weeks, during which time Mrs. Beebe remained in her lonely wilderness home, the sole occupant of the forest and her "palace of poles." She must have been blessed with far more than ordinary courage and fortitude or she could never have lain calmly down in a dense forest, night after night, many miles distant from any human habitation, to rest by the lullabys of the wolves and panthers. Mrs. Beebe is said to have been thus situated, and it was not until the middle of the winter that her husband and brother pushed their frail craft to Binghamton, where they were joined by John Miller, father of the afterward well known deacon Daniel Miller. The little canoe was again pushed from shore and on their way homeward up the river "the men took turns in directing its course and removing obstacles, or following on foot and driving the cattle." Sometimes the stream was found too shallow and the boat was drawn across the rift by oxen and then again set afloat. Time, which is the author of all changes in human affairs, at last brought the pioneers near to their wilderness home. The imagination of the reader can best depict the meeting of the two men with the brave and lonely wife and sister. So runs, in substance, the narrative of the first settlement of this town.

Unfortunately for the authors and circulators of this interesting story, there is a somewhat different version of it given upon undoubted authority (that of Mr. Charles Kingsbury, of Homer) which it is our duty to reproduce. Mr. Kingsbury has written and published many reminiscences of early times, and of the account of the winter journey of the three men from Broome county, says: "Now, it strikes me as being singular that those first settlers should pull from shore in midwinter and be able to propel their frail craft, not only against the current of the stream; but the winter must have been of a much milder type than modern winters, or the stream would have been filled with heavy ice which, of course, would have seriously obstructed the navigation. It appears that this story lacks confirmation." These are Mr. Kingsbury's own words, and the narrative as best substantiated to him is to the effect that "Mr. and Mrs. Beebe and Mr. Todd, a brother-in-law of Beebe, and at that time unmarried, came up the river in a boat from Windsor and landed on the west bank about midway between the present Port Watson bridge and the point where the two branches of the river unite.[1] There they constructed a temporary cabin of a few logs, but mostly of poles, and the men returned to Windsor for provisions and such articles as they could bring back, and which their circumstances imperatively demanded. It has been asserted almost times without number, that Mrs. Beebe remained alone during their absence; but it now appears upon good authority that she had a daughter named Clara, who remained with her. For some cause, at present unknown, the men were detained much longer than they expected to be; even more than twice the length of time they had marked out had already passed. Mrs. Beebe's small stock of provisions was exhausted, and she was reduced to the necessity of resorting to roots and the barks of trees to appease their hunger and sustain life. At length she came to the conclusion that some serious misfortune had befallen her husband and brother, and that some decided effort was necessary on her part; the only alternative which presented itself, which appeared at all feasible, was to make the journey down the river through the forest on foot. This bold resolution she finally adopted, although well

[1] This would locate their first settlement within the present boundaries of Cortlandville.

aware that the woods were inhabited by wild animals, many of which were fierce and dangerous. She hoped by keeping near to the stream, to avoid the danger of being lost in the woods, and thus by patient and persevering effort, she would at length succeed in emerging from the forest and discovering a settlement. The day for beginning the journey was fixed, the small means she possessed were in readiness, when, sometime in the night preceding her start, upon looking out of her cabin, she discovered a light some distance down the river. This was something so unusual that it created much interest in her mind, and, watching it closely, she saw it was approaching. In a little time it drew near and with it her husband and brother, with a stock of provisions and other goods which they so much needed."

This cabin was their temporary residence during the time the men were engaged in building a log house, on the farm upon which Mr. Beebe located, west of Homer village, on lot 43, on the south side of the road formerly known as "the turnpike." Here the Beebes spent the remainder of their lives, Mrs. Beebe dying in 1830 and her husband in 1802. An old-fashioned headstone marks their graves, in what is now Glenwood Cemetery. Like a majority of the early settlers, Mr. and Mrs. Beebe were very worthy people. We find their names among the earliest members of the first Baptist Church society of Homer.

Mr. Todd subsequently settled on the farm adjoining Mr. Beebe's on the east, where himself and his wife passed their lives. They were also worthy and respected members of the community. Both of these families reared a number of children, all of whom removed from the town. Harry S. Beebe, son of Joseph, succeeded his father on the farm, but subsequently removed to the State of Pennsylvania, where he died several years ago.

This last account of the first settlement in this county is undoubtedly reliable and correct, in the main, as we have it directly from one who is, probably, the oldest native citizen now living in the old town of Homer, to whom Mrs. Beebe herself related the circumstances; going with him to the spot upon which their first cabin was built, which she was enabled to recognize by a spring of water issuing from the ground near to and in a certain direction from the location of the cabin. The land on which the dwelling was built was owned and occupied in later years by Samuel Hotchkiss.

This last account of the first settlement in the county by white persons becomes of considerable importance when we consider its authenticity, its bearing upon the most prominent of the early experiences of the pioneers, and the fact that it removes the first settlement from the town of Homer to a point within the present boundaries of the town of Cortlandville.

As we have before stated, John Miller accompanied Todd and Beebe on their second journey up the Tioughnioga river and in the spring of the year, 1792, brought to the town of Homer his wife and two sons; they came from the State of New Jersey and constituted the third family in the town; although John House, James Mathews and James Moore accompanied him on his return from his former home in the spring of the year last named. It appears by an old record that the Miller family formerly resided in the State of Maryland, about fifty miles west of Baltimore; but at what time is not known; nor is the place in New Jersey, from which he is said to have migrated to this county, known at this time, as far as we have been able to learn. He settled on lot 56, now embraced in the town of Cortlandville, and further reference to the family will be found in the history of that town.

John House, James Mathews and James

Moore, who came into the town with the Millers, were from Binghamton; they camped at the forks of the river, where their wives remained while the pioneers went forward and erected cabins for their temporary homes. "Mr. Mathews built on the upper end of Mr. Miller's lot (56). Mr. House about eight rods west of where Ebenezer Cole afterward lived. Mr. Moore near the bridge just south of the cotton factory."[1]

Darius Kinney came into the town from Brimfield (from which Massachusetts town very many of the early settlers in this section migrated), and located in 1793 on the East river. Mrs. Kinney was a sister of the wife of Judge Keep. Mr. Kinney resided on that farm about four years, and near the dwelling of Judge Keep on the site of the present county poor-house. Mr. Kinney then disposed of his farm and purchased another in the valley of the west branch of the river, since owned by Abel Kinney (now owned by a Mr. Gallup), where he died in 1816. Mrs. Kinney survived her husband something more than twenty-five years and was one of the little band that constituted the first Congregational Church in Homer, in October, 1801; at the time of her death she was the last of the little company.

The Ballard family came from Holland, Mass. John located on the east side of the Tioughnioga, and three years later settled on the farm subsequently owned by Paris Barber. It was owned at that time by Capt. David Russell, who had erected a double log house near the northwest corner of Mr. Barber's orchard.

During the year 1795 several small companies came in by way of Manlius and Truxton. Thomas L. and Jacob Bishop, from Brimfield, located on lot 25, on lands afterward owned by Noah Hitchcock, now occupied by his son, Dwight Hitchcock. The farm was known in early days as the Vanderlyn farm. Thomas Wilcox came from Whitestown, N. Y., and located on lot 64, where Joshua Ballard afterwards lived. Zebulon Keene located on the farm afterward owned by Mr. —— Sheffield. John Stone, from Brimfield, settled on lot 25, on what was subsequently known as the Albert Baker farm. Joshua Atwater located on lot 13, northwest of the village; Ezra and Joseph Atwater were his sons.

Solomon and John Hubbard, brothers, came from Massachusetts in 1795 or '96; the former settled on lot 25 and the latter on lot 26, a little north from the present village. These men were active, intelligent citizens and their efforts in various directions for the good of the community became in after years important and influential. Solomon Hubbard's residence, when originally erected, was looked upon as one of the largest and most pretentious in the county.

Thomas G., Ebenezer and Charles Alvord came in from Farmington, Conn., in 1795 or '96, and settled in the northwest part of the town on lot No. 13. The former, however, drew lot 56. When he reached Manlius on his journey into the county he was met by two "land-sharks," who, on learning the number of the lot on which the old hero was intending to settle, coolly informed him that they had been to Homer and that they were well acquainted with the position of his land, and would assure him that it was of very little value, was wet, the greater part of it being covered with water. By virtue of plausible lies of this character they induced him to part with six hundred acres of most valuable land for a few dollars.

In 1795 Enon Phelps emigrated from Morristown, N. J., and settled on the northeast corner of lot 50 in the extreme south-

[1] Goodwin's History.

east corner of the present town of Homer; there, on the hill adjoining the town of Solon, he located on a hundred acres of land which he had bought of George Clinton. It is believed that Mr. Cilnton drew this lot as bounty land for services rendered in the army. The location of Mr. Phelps was about three miles from the valley, between which points there was at that time, of course, no road. Mr. Miller, on lot 56, (where T. Mason Loring now resides) was desirous of opening better means of communication with his neighbor Phelps; he accordingly started for the purpose of locating a road by "blazing" trees — making what was early called a bridle-path. Leaving the valley, he proceeded, as he sup posed, in the direction of Mr. Phelps's house; he made good progress, finding the route a very feasible one. Pushing on as fast as the brush and his labor marking the trees would admit, he finally emerged from the forest into a clearing. His astonishment may be imagined on finding himself not more than half a mile in a southeasterly direction from the place where he left the valley, and but a short distance from the ground now occupied as a burying-ground. He made a second attempt, but again failed utterly. Procuring a compass, his third effort at road making was successful.[1]

William W. Phelps was a son of Enon Phelps and a printer by trade. He was at one time connected with one of the county Democratic papers, but subsequently removed to the western part of the State, where he became a leader among the Mormons, then located in that section, and printed their bible. Later still he returned to Homer and baptized his father, mother and brother. Enon Phelps cleared up his land and planted the first apple orchard in the town.

Joshua Ballard came from Holland, Mass., in 1797, and selected a location on lot 45. He was twenty-one years old at that time. During the next year he returned to his native State and brought back with him his young and interesting wife. They came by the way of Cazenovia into the town of Homer on horseback. Mr. Ballard taught the first school in the old town and gave valuable aid to the Cortland Academy, being one of its founders and most prominent supporters. He was appointed sheriff on the 10th of April, 1810; was a member of the Legislature of 1816; was appointed county clerk in July, 1819, soon after which he removed into the boundaries of the present town of Cortlandville.

In 1798 Daniel Crandall came to Homer and worked for Judge Keep, chopping the timber and clearing ten acres of land on the site of the county poor-house farm. He was a native of Voluntown, Windham county, Conn. He came in alone and it is believed he made the entire journey on foot. Late in the season after his arrival he was seriously wounded by an axe cut in his foot, which made it impossible to continue his labor in the woods. Under these circumstances he collected a few tools and began the business of "cobbling" in Judge Keep's house. Here he was permitted to occupy a small space in one corner of the family room, which was not a large one, and contained a bed, a loom and other domestic furniture, for the use of which and his board he gave the judge one day's work in each week. He soon became sufficiently expert in his new avocation to begin mak-

[1] This is by no means an isolated instance of the kind. Most old settlers will remember similar experiences on either their own part or that of their neighbors. It has been often proved that it is an absolute impossibility for a person unacquainted with woodcraft to follow any point of the compass through a thick forest; he may do it by chance, but as an intention the probabilities are all against his success. On the other hand, the Indian, by some power that is difficult of comprehension by civilized man, finds no trouble in going miles through an impenetrable forest direct to a distant point, and seldom or never erring. Instinct, as it is called, often seems to baffle reason.

ing boots and shoes, and so spent the winter in industry. It is quite probable that this was the first manufacturing of any kind, other than spinning and weaving, carried on in the county. Mr. Crandall subsequently returned to Connecticut, and in the winter of 1799–1800 was married and removed with his wife back to Homer; they made the journey with an ox team, crossed the Hudson river on the ice, opening and breaking his own road a portion of the distance, and being twenty-one days on the way. He afterwards helped to chop the trees from the ground now occupied by the "green" in Homer village, and also to build the structure there for school and religious purposes. He purchased fifty acres of land on lot 38, which included the site of the East River Mills, where he built a log-house; he moved into it when it was without a door and the gables were open, and kept his oxen, a cow and a calf through the first winter on "browse." The wolves attempted to kill the calf, but, strange to relate, the cow and oxen fought desperately in the feeble animal's defense and came off victorious. Captain Crandall built the first saw-mill at East River, and subsequently, in company with Samuel Griggs, erected the first grist-mill at that point. He was one of the sixteen persons who constituted the first Baptist Church society in Homer.

In the pioneer days Mr. and Mrs. Crandall were in the habit of walking to the house of Judge Keep for the purpose of attending meeting, that being the place where, for some years, religious and other public gatherings were held, Mr. Crandall carrying their first-born child in his arms. On one of these occasions they had proceeded about half a mile, when they came into a small opening in the forest where the water bubbled in several springs from the ground and formed a little rivulet. Here they suddenly encountered a large bear, deeply engaged in digging roots from the soft ground for her cubs; the bear, being a mother and suddenly surprised, instantly reared on her haunches and for a few moments intently surveyed her enemies. It was a critical time; Mr. and Mrs. Crandall confidently expected an attack, and that at the next moment they might be clasped in the too ardent embrace of the animal and their flesh be torn by her teeth. But after a few moments, when her curiosity was apparently satisfied, the bear turned and disappeared in the forest, to the great relief of the church-goers.

In 1797 John Albright located on lot 29. He was an excellent citizen, respected by his friends, and his experience was of a very interesting character. He passed through much of the severest service in the Revolutionary War, faithfully and honorably serving his country. He was of Swiss parentage and early in life followed the tailoring business; but he did not like the work to which he was apprenticed, and the son of his foster-parent having been drafted, young Albright saw an opportunity of escape from his irksome position by taking the place of the drafted son in the colonial service, surrendering his indentures to the tailor's trade. After his enlistment he was ordered to Fort Montgomery, Orange county, where he was stationed during the siege. He was afterwards engaged in the defense of Fort Stanwix, and was subsequently captured by Tories and Indians and taken as a prisoner to Canada. Afterwards he was a participant in the terrible march of the Continental army from Philadelphia to Valley Forge, where they could have been tracked upon the frozen ground by their bleeding feet. Finally he was in the siege of Yorktown, which ended in the capitulation of Cornwallis. For his services to his country he drew the military bounty lot on which he located.

Daniel Todd, brother of Amos Todd, located on a farm lying directly south of Mr. Beebe's. It is now known as the Bedell farm. Titus Stebbins settled immediately south of Amos Todd prior to the year 1800, and Chester Boies located to the north of Stebbins, where he was succeeded by Bildad Hotchkiss. The latter was succeeded on this farm by Samuel Bunn; it is at present owned by his widow and children. Mr. Bunn gained the reputation of being an honest, upright and respected member of the community. A short distance to the east and adjoining his farm was that of Pliny Polly, the first settler on that farm. One of his daughters became the wife of Charles Todd, son of Daniel Todd; another the wife of A. Harris, of Little York, and another married a son of Dr. Carpenter, of East River; he removed to the west.

Asa White and Caleb Keep came from Monson, Mass., before 1798. The former located on lot 45, within the present limits of the village, and built his house on the grounds so long occupied in subsequent years by the residence of Jedediah Barber. He was the father of Horace and Hamilton White, afterwards bankers in Syracuse. He, in company with John Keep and Solomon Hubbard, built the first grist-mill in the county, in 1798, on the site of the present mill near the northern end of the village.

Other considerable accessions were made to the population during the year 1798, many of whom settled along the two branches of the river. Stephen Knapp came in with his brother-in-law from Goshen, Orange Co., N. Y., to make explorations. Knapp's father had been killed in the War of the Revolution, leaving him to make his own way in the world; for this laudable purpose he sought the wilderness country and purchased a large tract of land. Returning to Goshen he made preparations to permanently remove to his new possessions; but he was delayed until the year 1798. He came in by the way of Poughkeepsie, Kingston, the head waters of Schoharie county; followed down the river to Prattsville; thence to Harpersfield, crossing at Wattles's ferry; thence to Oxford; thence to Solon, where he took the Salt Road about two miles to 'Squire Bingham's; thence over the hills to Judge Keep's and thence to the house of John Ballard, where he remained some time. One hundred acres of the land bought by Mr. Knapp, which afterward constituted the homestead, was a portion of what is now the cemetery grounds. His house, a simple log cabin, stood where the "tool house" of the cemetery is now located. Two hundred acres were below the village and within the present boundaries of Cortlandville (on lot 55) on both sides of the river, and two hundred acres on lot 85, also in the town of Cortlandville. During the following winter after Mr. Knapp's location his mother, Hester Knapp, with her family consisting of Stephen, Daniel, James, Nathaniel and two daughters, Polly and Sally, came in over the route as above given. Stephen Knapp became a man of prominence and energy; one whose influence in bringing the wilderness under civilizing influence was permanent and important. During the earlier years of his life in Homer the broad valley of the Tioughnioga was covered with a dense forest, and it was easier for him to reach the lands on his lower tracts by following down the bed of the stream, than by making a journey through the wood. Mr. Knapp married Abigail Treat, and was the grandfather of William O. Bunn, late editor of the Homer *Republican*, and deputy U. S. Internal Revenue collector, with headquarters at Syracuse. Mr. Knapp lived to the venerable age of eighty-four years, sixty-six of which were passed in the town of Homer.

Daniel Knapp, older brother of Stephen, erected a dwelling house on the north part

of the farm and near the four corners of the road at the cemetery, which he opened afterward as a tavern and kept it as such for several years. The succeeding residents of this farm were Chauncey Keep, Mr. Dickson, and General Martin Keep, who bought the property about 1824 and resided there ten years, removing to Tompkins county. The farm has since been owned by Walter Jewett, and by Paris Barber, who sold the grounds of the cemetery to the association. With the exception of twenty acres on the east side of the road, the farm is now and has been for some time owned by Henry Dennison.

A short distance up the river on the opposite side of the stream and near the foot of the hill is the location where Stephen Knapp resided for some years, now owned by Andrew Kingsbury. Aaron Knapp settled south of his brother Daniel, on the farm now owned by Allen Smith.

Enos Stimson was from Monson, Mass., and settled on the site of the well known Schermerhorn residence in Homer village. He built a small house and hung out a tavern sign; but he was compelled to send his wife and children away the following spring, on account of the ravages of the small-pox. They sojourned at the house of Aaron Knapp, where they were vaccinated. An incident occurred during the absence of Mrs. Stimson, which shows what a strong appetite the Indian had acquired for the white man's "fire-water." Twelve Onondaga Indians called one evening at Mr. Stimson's inn, where they drank freely, and became exceedingly hilarious. Demanding more liquor, it was refused by the landlord; but they were not at all disposed to depart until their now raging desires were gratified. They became threatening in their attitude, and prepared to attack Mr. Stimson, who was compelled to seek safety up the the stairs, pulling the ladder after him. The field was now clear, and it was but a few moments before the bottles and decanters were emptied of their contents down the capacious throats of the red drunkards. A bacchanalian revel followed. In the midst of it, and after vainly searching for more jugs to empty, an old sachem found a bottle half filled with "picra," from which he took a liberal drink; passing it on to a young chief, he swallowed the whole of its contents. The effect was pitiful and at the same time decidedly comical. The two sickened Indians felt sure they were poisoned to death; and, indeed, there was danger of such a result. At this juncture, while some of the party were guarding the hole through which Mr. Stimson had disappeared into the upper regions, and others were bending over the supposed dying Indians, another one, who was in that glorious condition of uncertainty which might be expected under the circumstances, rushed hurriedly out of the door, and, mistaking the side of the well curb for a yard fence, gave a leap, and the next instant was at the bottom of the well. This method of diluting the spirits he had swallowed did not please the old warrior, and he yelled and cursed with all the ardor and variations of which the language was capable; but there was too much of similar amusement going on in-doors to make it possible for his companions to hear him for some time. When assistance finally came he was drawn out of the well with blankets, a wetter and a wiser savage. With the coming of morning, and the disappearance of the entire stock of liquor, the Indians regained their reason, and the besieged landlord was permitted to descend to his proper sphere.

The Hobart family, consisting of the two brothers, Daniel and Samuel, were from Monson, Mass.; Daniel located on lot 43, west of the village; Samuel on lots 15 and 16, between the village and Little York.

Gideon settled with his father, and remained on the same farm until his death in 1857.

Titus Stebbins came from the same town and settled on lot 43. It is now occupied by his son-in-law, Lyman Hubbard.

Samuel Hotchkiss came from New Haven, Conn., in 1798; located on lot 44. He became a prominent citizen, attaining a most enviable position in the community. He was county clerk several terms between 1822 and 1843, and was given other positions of trust. George Eldridge now occupies this farm.

Noah Hitchcock, before mentioned, came in from Brimfield, and located on lot 25, north of the village. He became one of the leading farmers of the county, and a respected citizen.

Zenas Lilly was an early resident whose life was closely identified with the growth of the town. He was also from Brimfield, and first located on lot 33, where he remained about twelve years, when he sold out and settled on "Factory Hill." Some years later he disposed of his property and settled in Lenox, but he subsequently returned to Homer and located on lots 34–5.

Timothy Treat was from Berkshire, Mass., and settled about eighty rods north of the later residence of John Barker, subsequently owned by Mr. Bowen. He had a family of eight children, one daughter becoming the wife of Stephen Knapp.

William Lucas and Asahel Miner were from Woodbury, Conn. The former located on lot 35, and became a prominent and valuable citizen. His children removed to the State of Ohio. Mr. Miner settled on the farm afterward occupied by Lucas Welch, and was the first sheriff of the county. His son, Martin Miner, was long a prominent citizen of Cortland village.

Colonel Benajah Tubbs came from Washington county, and located on the site where George W. Phillips's store afterward stood. He was one of the early merchants, and continued in business for many years.

Dr. Lewis S. Owen came from Albany, and located on lot 66. After remaining there three years he removed to Homer village, and erected a house on the site of the present residence of George Murray, where Dr. Robert Owen lived for some years.

After the year 1800 the town began to fill up with settlers at a more rapid rate. Those who had already made homes for themselves were gradually clearing their farms and homesteads, and surrounding themselves with such evidences of civilization and comfort as were available, making it more attractive to future prospectors. It is manifestly impossible, even if it were desirable, to name and locate all the settlers of the town from the beginning of the century down; a few of the more prominent may, however, be briefly referred to.

Ephraim P. Sumner came in from Connecticut in 1800, and located on lot 47, where his son of the same name now lives. He purchased two hundred acres, and died in 1843. His wife died in 1840.

Noah Carpenter came in from Pomfret, Windham county, Connecticut, and located on lot 16, north of the village. His son, Asaph H. Carpenter, was born during the journey of his parents from the East. He lived on the parental homestead until his death recently. Francis B. Carpenter, one of the eminent artists of the country, and a resident of New York city, is a son of A. H. Carpenter.

Thomas, Nathan and Samuel Stone were from Brimfield, and located on lot 46.

Levi Phillips came in with his brother Waterman (who settled in the town of Cortlandville), and located on lot 16; he came with an ox team from Connecticut, bought fifty acres, and subsequently added ninety-seven more. He died in 1845 and his

widow in 1850; his son, Oren, long occupied the homestead.

In the year 1801 several additional settlements were made. Among them was that of Seth Keep, who came from Massachusetts originally, but migrated to Homer from Vermont, locating on the northeast corner of lot 33.

Gad Hitchcock was from Monson, Mass.; his son, Horace Hitchcock, was for many years a respected citizen of the village.

John Coats located near the site of the Congregational Church in 1802.

In the same year Thomas Chollar came from Windham, Conn., and remained in the town about three years, during which time he made explorations in various parts of the surrounding country, informing himself thoroughly upon the soil and other peculiarities of the region. In the latter part of 1804 he selected a location on lot 17, upon which he settled in 1809. Mr. Chollar was a prominent citizen; he was the father of Thomas D. Chollar, who now lives in Homer village.

Rev. Alfred Bennett came into the town in 1803, and settled on the farm now owned by Nicholas Starr; he soon after entered the ministry, and became a noted and successful divine. His church work will be referred to hereafter.

In this year, also, Jacob Sanders, Levi Bowen and Elijah Pierce settled in the town. Mr. Sanders was from Swansey, Mass., and located on lot 56 (now Cortlandville). Levi Bowen settled on lot 7, near Little York, coming here from Woodstock, Conn. He died in 1832, leaving eight children. Mr. Pierce was from Brimfield.

Moses Butterfield came from Canterbury, Conn., in 1803, and located about a half mile in a northeasterly direction from the Miller farm at East River, and on the same side of the stream; it was on lot 47, and where Charles Kingsbury now resides. In the spring of that year he built a house on the lot, and planted a small piece of corn on a spot which was supposed to have been cut and cleared of timber by the Indians. Mr. Butterfield returned to Connecticut, and in October of the same year returned again to Homer, bringing his family. They passed their first night at Deacon Miller's, and he accompanied them to their home the next morning. On going to the doorway (the door itself was not yet in existence, and the gables were open) Mrs. Butterfield looked in, turned around, and with a look of homesickness and despair, said to her husband: —

"Mr. Butterfield, is this my home?"

By dint of hard labor, however, Mr. Butterfield soon had a respectable floor and roof for his house, splitting the "puncheons" out of logs, and smoothing them down with his axe.

Adjoining the farm of Mr. Butterfield on the east is the one on which his brother, Parker Butterfield, first located in 1806; he resided there until 1822, when he sold to Ward Woodward, who came here from New Hampshire. Mr. Woodward became a respected citizen of the highest moral character, and was long a consistent member of the Congregational Church.

About a mile from Mr. Butterfield John Frazier settled on a small farm on lot 36, in 1803. He was born in 1749 in England, entered the country's service, or, rather, was dragged from his bed and forced to enlist under the banner of King George, and served in the army of General Burgoyne; he remained in the same division until the battle of Stillwater, and the surrender of his army to General Gates, in October, 1777. At that time he escaped from the service, and subsequently reached Pomfret, Connecticut, where he was employed by General Putnam. There he was married in 1799, and removed to Homer, as stated.

He thought to make sure of a valid title to his land by paying for it; but he failed in this, and paid for it a second time, and his title being disputed, he actually paid for a portion of it the third time, and even then was forced to abandon it altogether; he died in the alms house in 1839. This incident will give the reader an idea of the trouble arising out of early land titles on the military tract, as narrated in the preceding history of that tract.

When Mr. Frazier came in from Pomfret he drove seven cows for Samuel Griggs, who came at the same time and located on lot 38. He was a prominent farmer; was president of the first agricultural society in 1822, and very active in the construction of the Albany turnpike through Cortland county. He removed to Cayuga county in 1829 or 1830, where he died.

Zebadiah Abbott migrated from Brimfield in 1803 and settled on the eastern part of lot 47, one-half of which he purchased, and resided there until 1820, when he died. His wife survived him about twenty years, and though she was totally blind and partially deaf, manifested the patience and resignation born of a Christian character. Their sons were Asa, Joseph and Nathan, who became valuable citizens.

Adjoining Mr. Abbott's farm on the east is the one on which Eli Sherman located; he also came from Brimfield, Mass., in 1804, and lived on this farm and greatly improved it, until 1866, when he died at the age of 87 years. The farm is now occupied by Philander Manchester.

Adjoining the farm of Mr. Sherman is that where Frederick Partridge settled in 1803, or '04; he purchased land of Mr. Abbott, on lot 47. He lived here about ten years, and was noted for his strict sobriety and temperance principles — something of an exception in those days. He was succeeded on the farm by Samuel Sherman, who also came from Brimfield, and settled on the Partridge farm in 1814. He became pecuniarily involved, and for the purpose of meeting his obligations, hauled cherry lumber from Homer to Boston, Mass. He also drew wheat to Albany, where, after discharging his load, would return with a cargo of merchant's goods, or stock for mechanics.

James Horton also lived on a lot that was taken from Mr. Abbott's farm; but at precisely what period is not now known. He engaged in the tanning and currying business and was a skillful mechanic.

Benjamin Knight, a native of Monson, Mass., first came to Homer in 1801, in the month of February, having probably made the journey on foot in ten days, and at an inclement season of the year. In January, 1802, he returned to Massachusetts, accomplishing the journey in twelve days. The next month he returned to Homer, again being twelve days on the road. He located on the southern part of the lot originally purchased by Judge Keep and subsequently again returned to Connecticut where, on the 11th day of September, 1803, he married Susan Goodell, of Pomfret; she was a sister of the wife of Judge Keep and also of the wife of Darius Kinney. Thus the three sisters came from Connecticut and settled within the radius of a mile. On this farm Mr. Knight resided during the remainder of his life. He united with the Congregational Church in 1806 and died in 1843, at the age of 66 years.

Capt. Zephaniah Hicks, originally of Rhode Island, migrated from Connecticut in 1805, and located on the southeast corner of the State's hundred, on lot 17. He has been described as an active, energetic, high-minded man; generous, humane and courteous. His prompt and manly greeting gained him the good-will of his neighbors and gave him much influence in all pioneer

gatherings. He removed in 1835 to Ingham, Michigan. Jacob Hicks was his son, who was two years old when he came to Homer. He afterward settled on lot 27, and is now dead. Capt. Hicks's daughter married Silas Elbridge Mann, afterward a prominent merchant in Jordan, N. Y.

In 1806 Col. David Coye, from Royalton, Vermont, and Lemuel Bates, from Cincinnati, came into the town. The former located on lot 45, where he lived many years. He purchased the first acre sold as a village lot, and followed his trade as a joiner. In 1815 he bought one hundred acres on lot 44. His shop stood on the site afterward occupied by C. O. Newton's store, on Main street, now occupied by Higbee's store. Mr. Coye filled several county offices, among which was that of sheriff in 1825. He was the father of eleven children. Mr. Bates settled on lot 26; his sons were Joseph and Ransford Bates.

William Shearer came from Washington county in 1807 and located on lot 36. Stephen and Joel R. Briggs, Arial Tickner and Erastus Hayes were from Otsego county and also came into the town in 1807, locating on lot 50, in the southeast corner of the town. Joel R. Briggs afterward lived on lot 38.

Deacon Ira Brown came from Brimfield in 1808 and located on lot 34, but subsequently removed to Cortland.

Joseph Bean settled in the town in 1809; his sons were Jeremiah, who lived in Cincinnatus, and Samuel, of Homer. In the same year Noah R. Smith and Matthias Cook came in. The former located on lot 45, in the village; he was from Middletown, and became a prominent and useful citizen; he was sheriff of the county in 1819. Mr. Cook was from Albany and engaged in the hatting business, which he continued for many years; his partner at one time was Col. Benajah Tubbs. Mr. Cook was honored with the appointment of county clerk in 1821; was elected to the Legislature in 1824, and was also justice of the peace.

Deacon Jesse Ives and Andrew Burr came in in the year 1810. Mr. Ives was from Litchfield, Conn., and located on lot 16, where he originally purchased ninety acres. He was an industrious and enterprising farmer and universally respected. He died November 27th, 1857, at the age of 81 years. He was the father of Frederick Ives, one of the prominent citizens of Cortland village. Mr. Burr was from Sharon, Conn. He located on the lands afterward owned and occupied by William Kingsbury, and now by Augustus Kingsbury. He was early engaged in the tanning business, but subsequently sold out to Mr. Kingsbury, and engaged in the saddlery and harness business, which he followed for thirty years. He made his influence felt on the growth of the village, erected several dwellings and otherwise labored for the good of the community.

Richard Graham and Henry Corl came in and located, the former on lot 28, in 1811; he was from Herkimer county. Mr. Corl came from Schenectady originally, but came here from Locke, Cayuga county, and settled on lot 8. A few years afterward he settled on his farm on "the hill," which was given his name.

During the progress of the war, from 1812 to 1815, settlement was greatly interrupted in all parts of the county. Down to this period we have noted most of the more prominent persons who came into the town — making a list that is much more complete than can now be given in any other town in the county.

A noteworthy arrival in 1812 was that of George W. Samson,[1] who came here from

[1] Mr. Samson was originally a seafaring man. His first voyage was to Charleston, S. C., at the time of the great fire in 1796. In 1800 he sailed for England, at the

Plympton, Mass., and settled first on lot 19, near the place since occupied by Joshua Pratt and his son David and still later by Harry Lathrop. Mr. Samson removed to lot 29, where close to the Truxton turnpike he expended much labor in excavating the hillside for the purpose of making the foundations of a building. He erected his house in 1814, moved into it and the following year opened it as a hotel, giving the place the name of Mt. Etam.[1] This was for many years a popular and well known stopping place on the turnpike. At this time there were but four families in the East Homer school district. Mr. Samson sold his tavern to Peter Westerman and engaged in the same business in Preble, and later in Homer village, where his son long kept the "Temperance House."

William Wood, a native of Hinsdale, Vermont, migrated to Herkimer, N. Y., and in 1814 came to Homer, at first locating on the road leading from the valley on the east branch of the river to Enon Phelps's, on lot 48. He lived there two years and removed southward on lot 58, and in 1819 to lot 39, on the hill and adjoining the farm of Capt. Crandall. After planting an orchard and otherwise extensively improving the place, he was forced to leave it for want of a valid title. He removed into the valley and subsequently to the hill on the northwestern side of the river, where he died in 1850. His farm on lot 58 is now embraced in the town of Cortlandville.

John Burnham purchased of Mr. Hilliard 300 acres of land on lot 30, adjoining the town of Truxton, cleared it of the forest and in 1818 erected a saw-mill; he afterward bought land on lot 20, adjoining his first purchase on the north and annexed it to his farm, where he lived until 1864 and died. A portion of his first purchase was made of John B. Henry, who settled on lot 30 in 1804.

Erastus Goodell, father of C. B. and Erastus, jr., located on the State's hundred, lot 7, in 1816; they were from Sturbridge, Mass. He became a prominent farmer.

William Andrews came in from Fabius, Onondaga county, in 1817. He secured the confidence of his fellow-citizens to such a degree that he was honored with several offices; he was constable and under-sheriff from 1820 to 1843 and in 1831 was elected sheriff on a Union ticket. He was one of the well known men of the county for many years.

Daniel Josling located in 1818 on lot 17; he was from Windham, Conn. Kenneth Scudder, from Monmouth, N. J., settled in Herkimer county in 1813, but subsequently came to Homer, locating on lot 18; he died in 1843.

From this date on to the year 1825, the progress of settlement in the town of Homer was uninterrupted. What was almost an unbroken wilderness a quarter of a century before was rapidly becoming a rich and prosperous farming country, while the village was already the leading place of business in the county — a prestige it retained for many years. The town suffered long, in common with other parts of the county, for want of railroad communication; the business of teaming for the transportation of the products of the town to Syracuse, while an important industry in itself, was at the same time a discouraging sign of the helplessness of the community in this respect. When the charter of the first proposed railroad was obtained in 1836 the hearts of the

time of the war between that country and France; the vessel was captured by a French cruiser in the channel and the crew taken into the port of Brest. Mr. Samson was taken from there under an escort and afterward saw the inside of thirteen different prisons. Upon his arrival at Nantes the American Consul procured his release. In 1803 he sailed as mate of the brig *Apollo* and visited many of the southern ports. His death occurred in Homer in February, 1868, at the age of 86 years.

[1] Named from the Bible history of Samson.

residents of the town beat high with anticipation of speedy relief from their isolation; but they were doomed to disappointment, and two more decades passed before the consummation of their hopes was reached in the construction and opening of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad. In this important enterprise the people of the town of Homer took a prominent and active interest, realizing that much of the future prosperity of the town depended upon it. It would be invidious at this time to single out those men who devoted their means and energies directly to the work, while all did whatever they were able towards the completion of the road; and when it was finally opened, there was an era of rejoicing on every hand. The disappointments and apparent losses which subsequently fell upon the town through the sale of the road, although grievous at the time, are now all forgotten in the general prosperity of the community — a prosperity that could never have been attained without railroad communication with distant points.

From about the year 1850, the dairying interest of this town has kept pace, at least, with that of other portions of the county and vicinity; the quantity and quality of the product has increased and advanced; cheese factories have been erected and the housewives of Homer have gained a reputation for their work in the dairy of which they may well feel proud. The Homer cheese factory, so-called, is situated a mile and a half north of Homer village, on the farm of Frederick G. Williams. It was erected in 1864, is two stories high and 32 by 175 feet in extent. A large business is done there, which is now controlled by a stock company.

TOWN ORGANIZATION.

Having given the early settlements of the town to as recent a date as is practicable, we will now revert to the first organization of the town of Homer. This event occurred on the 5th of March, 1794, when the county of Onondaga was erected, of which Homer was then a part. The town officers were not, however, drawn entirely from within the present town limits; Virgil and Solon, then a part of Homer, and each embracing towns since formed, as detailed in the general history, were permitted to share in the political honors and emoluments of that early day. Political ambition and activity was then at a low ebb, if we may judge by the following record from the town book: —

"State of New York, } ss.
Onondaga County, }

"*Whereas*, The town of Homer, in said county, on the 5th day of April, did neglect to appoint the necessary town officers for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, and,

"*Whereas*, By a law passed on the 7th day of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, directing three justices of the peace of said county to nominate, and under their hand and seals, appoint such officers as under said act is necessary — therefore, we, Asa Danforth, Hezekiah Scott and Daniel Keeler, three of the justices of the peace, appointed in and for said county, nominate, and by these presents do appoint: —

"For Supervisor — John Miller.

"Town Clerk — Peter Ingersoll.

"Assessors — Thomas L. Bishop, Moses Hopkins, Joseph Beebe, Daniel Miner, Roderick Beebe.

"Commissioners of Highways — Samuel Benedict, David Russell, Moses Hopkins.

"Overseers of the Poor — Joseph Beebe, Christopher Whitney.

"Constable and Collector — John House.

"Signed, "ASA DANFORTH,
"HEZEKIAH SCOTT,
"DANIEL KEELER."

The meeting at which these appointments were made was held at the house of "'Squire" Miller, on the 9th of April,

1795. The first annual town meeting for the election of officers was held at Mr. Miller's house, on the 8th of April, 1796, when the following were elected: —

Supervisor — John Miller.

Town clerk — Peter Ingersoll.

Assessors — Ezra Rockwell, Billy Trowbridge, Daniel Miner, Francis Strong, David Russell, Jacob Bishop.

Collectors — Roderick Beebe, Barzilla Russell.

Overseers of the poor — Zera Beebe, Thomas L. Bishop, Oliver Tuthill.

Constables — Barzilla Russell, Roderick Beebe.

Overseers of highways — William Tuthill, Ebenezer Jones, Zera Beebe, Samuel C. Benedict, Joseph Beebe, Solomon Hubbard, John Morse.

Fence viewers — Elnathan Baker, George Trowbridge, John Bingham, David Jackson, John House, Moses Hopkins.

These early elections were carried on in a different spirit from that which characterizes the political contests of the present time. There was seldom much rivalry, and none of the bitterness of later days. In the year 1800, however, there was quite a spirited contest.

At the town meeting in 1796 it was agreed by vote, "That every man should make his own pound; and that hogs run at large without yokes or rings; that fences be made four and a half feet high, and not to exceed four inches between logs or poles."

In the following year (1797) it was agreed by a unanimous vote, "That every man in the town may provide his own pound for every creature that does him damage, and yet be entitled to damage the same as at the town pound; that hogs be free commoners; that three feet of sound fence shall not be more than five inches between earth, logs or grass."

The special meeting that year was held at the house of Daniel Knapp, at which the following were a portion of the proceedings, quoted verbatim: —

"Voted, 1st, That the inhabitants of the town build a bridge across the river at the mills.

"2d, That the bridge be built by a tax on the inhabitants of the town of Homer, as filed in the secretary's office of this State.

"3d, That Martin Keep, Aaron Knapp and Solomon Hubbard be a committee to report what plan said bridge be built upon."

Such were the problems that engrossed the chief portion of the official attention of our forefathers.

The town was divided into highway districts in 1797. In 1798 a wolf scalp commanded a premium of from five to ten dollars, according to size; bear's, five dollars; panther's, ten dollars, and fox's, fifty cents.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of the town of Homer, the supervisor's name being given first in each instance: —

1795, John Miller, Peter Ingersoll; 1796, John Miller, John Keep; 1797–98, Joshua Atwater, Thomas L. Bishop; 1799, James Knapp, Thomas L. Bishop; 1800, Caleb Keep, Joshua Ballard; 1801, John Ballard, Joshua Ballard; 1802–03, Joshua Ballard, Joshua Atwater; 1804 to 1806 inclusive, John Ballard, Joshua Ballard; 1807–08, Asahel Miner, Joshua Ballard; 1809, Mead Merrill, Adin Webb; 1810–11, Daniel Miller, Adin Webb; 1812–13, William Lucas, Adin Webb; 1814, Moses Kinney, Adin Webb; 1815 to 1818 inclusive, Wm. Lucas, Adin Webb; 1819–20, Levi Bowen, Adin Webb; 1821 to 1829 inclusive, Martin Keep, Adin Webb; 1830–31, Martin Keep, Orin Stimpson; 1832–33, Noah R. Smith, Orin Stimpson; 1834, Chauncey Keep, John Sherman; 1835, Horace White, John Sherman; 1836, Wm. Walter, John Sherman; 1837–38, Wm. Walter, G. J. J. Barber; 1839, John Keep, Erasmus Bowen;

1840 to 1842 inclusive, Chauncey Keep, Erasmus Bowen; 1843, Lemuel D. Newton, Erasmus Bowen; 1844, Noah Hitchcock, jr., Loammi Kinney; 1845, Joseph L. Clapp, Loammi Kinney; 1846, Lemuel D. Newton, Loammi Kinney; 1847, Geo. J. J. Barber, Horace Pierce; 1848, Frederick Ives, Horace Pierce; 1849, Frederick Ives, Rufus A. Reed; 1850, Samuel Sherman, Horace S. Babcock; 1851, Giles Chittenden, Horace S. Babcock; 1852–53, Manly Hobart, Horace S. Babcock; 1854, Jacob M. Schermerhorn, Nathaniel Jones; 1855, Peter Walrad, B. D. Benedict; 1856, Peter Walrad, Uri H. Patterson; 1857, Peter Walrad, Edwin Miles; 1858, Giles Chittenden, Edwin Miles; 1859–60, Giles Chittenden, C. O. Newton; 1861–62, Geo. W. Phillips, Wm. H. Burnham; 1863, Geo. W. Phillips, John H. Munger; 1864–65, Geo. W. Phillips, Martin Miner; 1866–67, Alphonzo Stone, Martin Miner; 1868 to 1870 inclusive, Geo. W. Phillips, Martin Miner; 1871, Manly Hobart, Martin Miner; 1872–73, Vernon T. Stone, Martin Miner; 1874–75, John H. Hicok, Martin Miner; 1876–77, S. McClellan Barber, William A. Kellogg; 1878, S. McC. Barber, J. Clayton Atwater; 1879–80, Wm. O. Bunn, J. Clayton Atwater; 1881, John J. Murray, J. Clayton Atwater; 1882, H. Wilson Blashfield, J. Clayton Atwater; 1883, Wm. H. Crane, J. Clayton Atwater.

At the annual town meeting held in the town hall in Homer, on the 20th of February, 1883, the following officers were elected: —

Supervisor — Wm. H. Crane.

Town Clerk — J. Clayton Atwater.

Justices of the Peace — Melvin J. Pratt, A. J. Kneeland, Stephen Klock, Elliot L. Stone.

Assessors — A. Dwight Kingsbury, C. H. Sherman, James H. Clark.

Commissioner of Highways — Harrison W. Southwick.

Collector — John York.

Inspectors of Election, District No. 1 — Irving Alexander, Abram Griffith; appointed, Ellis Briggs.

District No. 2 — Frank Galluss, Ossian B. Andrews; appointed, Wm. A. Coon.

District No. 3 — Harlan P. Hull, Vernon T. Stone; appointed, Andrew P. Henderson.

Town Auditors — A. W. Hobart, Chas. B. Goodell; appointed, Frank D. Carpenter.

Excise Commissioners — Warren Salisbury, H. W. Southwick, W. B. Beach.

Overseers of the Poor — Augustus W. Kingsbury, Stephen P. Hoag.

Constables — Wm. A. Shirley, Alfred B. Raymond, Elisha Williams, John Bennett, Wm. T. Sanders.

Game Constable — Henry L. Carpenter.

HOMER IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

No town came forward with more readiness to aid in putting down the gigantic rebellion which threatened the life of the government than did old Homer. Enlistments were made from the town at the very first call for soldiers, which were followed as long as there was opportunity, by the most patriotic offers of service and life, and generous outlay of money, in aid of the government. A special meeting of the town officers was held at the town hall on the 6th of July, 1862, pursuant to a call of the freeholders, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of raising money for soldiers' bounties, to encourage enlistments to meet the call of the government for troops. The names of the freeholders signed to the call for the meeting were: George Murray, S. S. Day, Charles Tower, G. S. Simmons, D. S. Totman, S. Plumb, B. W. Payne, Thomas Holbrook, E. Stimson, M. C. Darby, R. F. Smith, W. T. Hicok, Joseph R. Dixon, G. W. Bradford, D. D. R. Ormsby, Josiah Stone, J. Sanders,

C. O. Newton, Samuel Babcock, L. Darby, Ira Green and H. S. Babcock. The meeting passed the following: —

"*Resolved*, That the electors proceed to vote upon the question of raising by tax fifty dollars to be paid to each person who shall volunteer from the town of Homer, from July 2d, 1862, until the whole number of the quota shall be raised."

The limit of the period during which enlistments might be made under this resolution was from July 2d to the 3d day of the following September, or until the time of a draft which might be ordered by the authorities; the number of such volunteers not to exceed that of the quota for the town under the two previous calls for soldiers.

Under this resolution three hundred and sixty-three persons voted, three hundred and sixty of whom were in favor of it. The finance committee, whose duty it was to receive and disburse the money raised under the resolution, to procure from the next Legislature legal sanction of the proceedings, and to co-operate with the town authorities in carrying out the measure, were Geo. W. Bradford, N. Randall, J. M. Schermerhorn, G. J. J. Barber, George Cook, W. T. Hicok and A. W. Kingsbury. This fifty dollar bounty was paid by the town outside of the State or county; but thereafter the town made the amount of its bounties to correspond with the suggestions and regulations of the Board of Supervisors of the county, thus preventing unnecessary competition among the different towns in filling their quotas. Whenever calls were made for troops, and the quotas of the towns were established, with the amount of bounties to be paid throughout the county, the freeholders of Homer never failed to call special meetings for the consideration of the matters involved. Thus, when the president issued a call for 500,000 men in 1864, another special town meeting was called under date of July 21st, which was signed by J. Murray, P. C. Kingsbury, I. W. Brown, Wm. Coggshall, Geo. W. Bradford, C. M. Clark, Geo. J. J. Barber, Thomas D. Chollar, D. D. R. Ormsby, W. T. Hicok, C. A. Collins, J. M. Pierce, O. Bowen, Samuel Babcock, George Murray, Lorenzo Bennett and Luke Babcock. The meeting was held on the 30th of July, pursuant to the call, and the following was offered for consideration: —

"*Whereas*, On the 27th day of July, 1864, the Board of Supervisors of Cortland county in special session, at the court-house in Cortland village, in said county, recommended to the electors of the several towns to hold special meetings in their respective towns and adopt the following resolution: —

"*Resolved*, That the town of Homer hereby offers bounty to each volunteer of $150 for all who enlist for one year, and the sum of $250 to each volunteer who may enlist for two years, or for a longer term, and who shall be accepted and mustered into the service of the United States and credited to said town, under the last call of the president of the United States for 500,000 troops; and in case other counties offer larger bounties than those above named, these offers be correspondingly raised, if deemed expedient by the committee, — therefore,

"*Resolved*, That this meeting does now proceed to vote on the above resolution, by the town clerk recording the ayes and noes of each elector who may desire to vote on said resolution."

The certificate of the clerk showed that the whole number of votes cast was one hundred and forty-seven, of which one hundred and forty-two were in favor of it.

On the 30th of August, 1864, the freeholders of the town again met to consider the propriety of raising the bounty of soldiers; this meeting terminated in a request to the town clerk to call a special town meeting of the electors of the town, to be held on the 7th day of September, 1864. The meeting was held and the following resolution adopted: —

"*Resolved*, That the town of Homer will endorse the resolution of the war committee of the

Board of Supervisors, given on the 3d day of September, increasing the bounty to volunteers and substitutes to one thousand dollars; and that we hereby instruct our supervisor to endorse the same to date from the 3d day of September, 1864, and for all volunteers who have enlisted and have been credited to the town under the president's last call for 500,000 men, except the thirteen men previously credited."

At a meeting of the board of town auditors of the town of Homer on the 10th day of November, 1864, the following resolution was adopted: —

"*Resolved*, That the supervisor of the town of Homer be directed to levy upon said town at the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the county, the sum of eight hundred dollars, for the purpose of paying additional bounty and incidental expenses incurred in filling the quotas of this town under the call of the president of July, 1864."

The following resolution was also passed at that meeting: —

"*Resolved*, That the sum of fifty-eight dollars and eighty-five cents be raised in like manner, for roads and bridges in said town."

Another special town meeting was held, pursuant to call, on the 10th of January, 1865, at which the electors of the town voted to offer a bounty of $400 to each volunteer, or substitute who should enlist for one year; $500 for two years, and $600 for three years. The number of votes cast at this meeting was one hundred and twenty-six, of which one hundred and fifteen were in favor of the measure. It was also further resolved that Chester M. Clark, Nathan Randall and J. H. Munger be a town committee for the purpose of procuring enlistments to fill the quota of the town, under the last call of the president for 300,000 men.

At a town meeting held on the 21st of February, 1865, it was resolved to pay a bounty in addition to that offered pursuant to the action of the Board of Supervisors, sufficient to make the whole amount $1,000.

We have thus given at considerable length all of the important proceedings by the town authorities in the matter of filling the different quotas of soldiers, the payment of bounties, etc. It will be seen that the proceedings conformed in all essential particulars to those of the Board of Supervisors of the county, as detailed in the chapter of the general history devoted to this subject; and as the meetings in the different towns held for the same purpose, and the proceedings of the same were, in their main features similar to those above described, we shall not deem it necessary to occupy our space with their details in the separate town histories in subsequent pages.

The names of all the volunteers of the town of Homer are given in the following list, except those of the first thirteen enlistments. Of those we have only the names of George Snyder and Eugene R. Rawson, his brother-in-law, who was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, and killed in July, 1865, and Joseph Hotchkiss: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid, $300. Total, $15,000. — Oscar Elmer, Charles A. Ford, William A. Wilcox, Hiram Burt, Ezra P. Haight, Lester H. Benedict, William H. Tubbs, Alonzo Miller, Deloss Sperry, William A. Benedict, Beman Crosby, Arden Haight, Albert Dyde, Ichabod Chapman, Burdin H. Barrett, Albert G. Sheffield, Charles J. Earle, Oliver Schermerhorn, William H. Gillett, Richard S. Valentine, Rensselaer Mills, John Reys, Dwight Chapman, Franz Dick, Franklin B. Corl, E. Washburn Moore, John G. Simmons, Jay J. Salisbury, Joseph Bushby, James M. D. Pierce, Edwin B. Swift, Franklin Winslow, Luman S. Hicks, Charles Doole, George W. Burdick, John G. Johnson, William Connell, Robert S. Howard, Martin Darling, William Reese, Benjamin Wilson, James Oakly, Nathaniel Butler,

Benjamin F. Burch, Thomas Dunn, William Sears, William H. Brotherton, Lavvison Stebbins, Theodore De Bar, Thomas Jones.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty paid $1,000, except $500 to three, and $700 to four. Total bounty, $52,300. Brokerage, $1,375. — Michael O'Brien, sub. for P. C. Kingsbury, William Morehead, sub. for Charles E. Bates, Lewis V. Huttleson, Albert J. Donaldson, Daniel A. Berry, sub. for S. M. Barber, Daniel Hands, sub. for J. H. Price, Lewis W. Shorinder, sub. for Levi Klock, John Smith, sub. for C. A. Persons, James Mongovan, sub. for Stephen Klock, Simon Fox, sub. for M. M. Hibbard, John Ripley, William W. Briggs, Robert P. Bush, Peter Conine, Philo Conine, Philip Conine, Washington Dayton, Leroy Galpin, Christopher H. Gettey, Theron Geutcheous, Frederick H. Goodell, James W. Henry, Earl A. Hill, William Howe, Henry D. Keeling, James R. Mann, Charles M. Macumber, John R. Miller, Asahel P. Nott, Asa Palmer, Earlman R. Palmer, Henry M. Phillips, Elijah B. Pender, Martin L. Rose, Ruel H. Rose, Jeremiah Starkey, George W. Stebbins, Oliver H. Topping, Charles H. Weaver, William M. Whiting, Peter York, Chas. H. Gould, sub. for Jed. Barber, 2d., William E. Kerby, Thomas Baldin, Abraham Wolf, John Williams, sub. for D. N. Hitchcock, Jacob Stickle, John Brown, sub. for H. P. Hull, William Bliss, sub. for J. D. Hull, William T. Reed, William O'Conner, Thomas Green, sub. S. H. Hibbard, Edwin M. Seaver, Beverly Johnson, Archie Taylor.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty paid, $300. Total, $15,500. Brokerage, $390.00. — John Blanch, James Williams, Eugene Collins, James Kelly, Patrick Foley, Patrick Mansfield, Jeptha W. Owen, Robert W. Leach, William B. Kimball, James Hall, John Cameron, William Garwood, Louis Zenloich, Joseph Lewis, John Summons, Renna Wearanger, David Williams, Elisha S. Lawrence, James Francis, William L. Stickney, Nathan Givens, Richard Epps, Joseph Dunger, John Cane, Frederick Roy, Samuel Rand.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $15,000; paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $53,675; paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $15,890. Grand total, $84,565.

HOMER VILLAGE.

What is now the pleasant and prosperous village of Homer was once, of course, but a mere collection of houses, around which the insignificant business of early days gradually collected; there was then more business in the surrounding vicinity of what is now the center of the village, than directly among the dwellings that constituted the nucleus of the place. Every new settlement shows more or less hesitancy about selecting its business center. Here springs up a small industry; there is built what becomes a popular public house, and yonder is located a store by a man who shows a capacity for success, and the mind of the little public vacillates until some, perhaps, trivial event decides the question of the site of a village in favor of some particular locality. Of the scattering industries referred to we will speak, before entering upon the business history of the village proper; they were what gave early life and energy to the young settlement, and are thus worthy of particular mention.

The Wright Hotel. — On the northward of Amos Beebe's farm, and separated from it, is the farm on which James Wright was quite an early settler. Whence he came, or just how long he remained, is not now known; but he cleared his land of the forest, placed it under cultivation, and, after a few years' residence in a log cabin, erected a frame dwelling of larger dimensions than

characterized most of the early dwellings, and eventually opened it as a hotel. It may seem singular to many at the present day that a public house should be opened in a locality apparently secluded; but this was on one of the main thoroughfares through Central New York, then denominated the Cooperstown Turnpike, which diverged from the Great Western Turnpike at Cherry Valley, and came westward through the central portion of the State. This road was heavily traveled for many years by teams hauling produce, etc., and especially wheat to Albany. It was prior to the construction of railroads or canals, and consequently a tavern for the accommodation of the teamsters and other travelers, if not an actual necessity, would be a great convenience, and sure to command considerable business. Such turnpike inns were thickly scattered throughout the State in early days.

Mr. Wright kept his hotel for many years, and spent the remainder of his life on the same farm, which is now owned by the heirs of Edmund Butler, to whom it was deeded by Wright.

A little northward from Mr. Wright's lived a Mr. Tanner, who was one of the first (if not the very first) weaver in the town. He made a specialty of weaving coarse hair cloth for use in sieves. He died at that place.

The first tailor in the vicinity of Homer village was Hooker Ballard, who came here in 1803. He is remembered as a worthy man and a good workman, who lived a quiet and retiring life.

Nathan Stone came to the vicinity of Homer village in 1800, and for many years worked at his trade of brick and stone mason. He located upon the farm now occupied by Erastus Jones. His brother, David Stone, the youngest of five brothers, also came here and worked at the trade of carpenter.

We have already referred to the arrival of Daniel Crandall in 1798, and his working at shoe mending, and finally at shoe making, in the house of Judge Keep, at East River. He was undoubtedly the first shoemaker in the town, and perhaps in the county.

Samuel Hotchkiss, who came in 1798, was originally a shipbuilder; he located a little east of Mr. Todd's farm, and worked as a carpenter. He built the house now occupied by Thomas Fisher, in which he lived for a time. He had charge of the erection of the frames of many of the houses in this vicinity at an early day.

During the earlier years of the history of the town the manufacture of whisky was one of the leading industries; it probably stood at the head in this respect. It was a practical and profitable method of disposing of surplus grain at home, instead of transporting it many miles to other markets. The liquor was then used with a freedom that would at the present time cause a general sentiment of horror in any community; but at the same time, the knowledge of chemistry was not so profound among the distillers as it is to-day, and their products consequently were of a much purer and more wholesome character than a great deal of the spirits sold at present. As late as the year 1829, as we are informed on good authority, there were ten distilleries in the town, at least six of which were within the present boundaries of Homer, and four within the limits of Cortlandville. It is probable that there were more; but perhaps it is well to not push the investigation any farther. Orrin Utley had one at East River; Samuel Griggs one "on the turnpike," and Ira Bowen one where the Homer cheese factory now stands; Benajah Tubbs one on "Brewery Hill;" Dr. Lynde one where Amos Hobart now lives, and Jedediah Barber one in the village. The lover

of ardent spirits in those days could go to a distillery, buy his gallon of whisky for twenty-five cents, and be presented with a jug in which to carry it home. Yet it is said that, while there was undoubtedly much more liquor consumed to the number of the population than there is now, still there was no more of what may be called intoxication than there is at the present day.

The business of tanning leather was one of the prominent early industries, also. Hitchcock & Bennett, two skillful boot and shoe manufacturers, erected a tannery on the summit of the hill near David Hannum's farm, at an early day, and continued the business there for many years. Andrew Burr, who came to Homer village in 1809, in company with a man by the name of Coats, erected a tannery, in addition to other buildings which he had built; but it appears that the business did not prosper under their management, as Mr. Burr sold out his interest in 1816, and not long afterward Mr. Coats disposed of his share in it and removed from the town.

Homer village is delightfully situated on the west branch of the Tioughnioga river, on the southern boundary of the town, and nearly central from east to west. It is three miles north of the village of Cortland, on the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York Railroad. For a number of years in the early history of the place it was the most important village in Cortland county; it now contains four churches, an academy, a newspaper, a bank, two hotels, several manufactories, numerous stores, and about 2,500 inhabitants. The streets and walks of the village are broad and ornamented with beautiful and thrifty shade trees, and lighted with gas. There are many tasteful residences and several fine business blocks. Main street is about a mile in length extending north and south and embraces most of the business part of the village.

Near the center of the village is a beautiful park, along the west side and facing which stand the Baptist, Congregational, Methodst and Episcopal Churches, and the Cortland Academy. The village contains two public halls — Keator (formerly Barber) and Wheadon Hall; the former is finished and furnished in good style and has a seating capacity of one thousand; the latter is forty by fifty feet in size.

The family that first settled on any part of the ground now occupied by Homer village, was, from the best information now available, that of John House, who located in the northeastern part of the village, near what is now known as the upper bridge, and probably on the site of the present residence of Erastus Goodell; but there is some difference of opinion in the minds of the present generation as to the exact site of the dwelling. But little is now known of Mr. House — whence he came, the length of time he remained, or whither he went. He was succeeded on his place of residence by Stephen Knapp, who had previously lived in a house at the foot of the hill, on the farm now owned by Andrew Kingsbury. Mr. Knapp was succeeded on the farm near the bridge by William Cummins, and he by Henry Woodward.

Asahel Miner came to Homer about the year 1797 and located first on the road north of the old factory building. In 1803 he removed to the village and occupied the house where his son, Martin Miner, subsequently lived for many years. Asahel Miner resided on this place until his death in 1817. It has been said of him that during his residence in Homer (which was about twenty years) he was called to fill more positions of responsibility and trust than any other man in the town. Among the early settlers of Homer village were the five brothers by the name of Ballard, who came here from Brimfield, Mass., and

located upon ground now occupied by the village and its immediate vicinity. Their names were John, Hooker, Sherebiah, Jonathan and Joshua. John and Hooker Ballard came to Homer in 1803. The former purchased a farm on the west side of Main street, locating his first dwelling on the site of Mr. Schermerhorn's house. This dwelling was used by him as a tavern and was the one in which he was succeeded by Enos Stimson, and where the Indian orgie occurred, as before narrated. In 1804 John Ballard was elected a member of the Legislature and in 1807 was elected to the State Senate. He was clerk of the county in 1808–09 and 1811–12. Joshua, who arrived here in 1797–98, bought a farm on the east side of the river, being a part of the farm since occupied by E. Kingsbury. He subsequently purchased land lying between Main street and the river, and erected buildings on or near the corner of Albany and Main streets.

Hooker Ballard purchased a farm adjoining that of John on the south and extending to the south line of lot 45, which now forms the boundary line between the towns of Homer and Cortlandville. Jonathan Ballard located on lot 54, adjoining the farm of Mr. Knapp. The two farms owned by Daniel Knapp, and those of Hooker and Jonathan Ballard, were situated in the corners of four different lots — 44, 45, 54 and 55 — one corner of each farm meeting at the same point.

The original house, now occupied by Mr. Schermerhorn, was erected by Caleb Ballard. He died in 1836 and his brother, Marsena Ballard, married his widow, removing from the town a few years later. In 1830 the property passed into possession of Andrew Dickson, by whom important additions were made. Marsena Ballard bought it of him; it then became the residence of Col. Williams and Robert Ellis became its next owner; he refitted and improved it. The premises subsequently passed into the hands of the present owner, who in the course of time made the additions and improvements which gave the place its present magnificent appearance.

Joshua Ballard, before 1820, erected the house afterwards owned and occupied by I. M. Samson. The eastern part of this building was fitted up for a store. In 1822 it was kept as a hotel and was afterwards owned and occupied by Col. Benajah Tubbs. In 1819 Mr. Ballard removed to Cortland village.

A little northward of the cabin built by John Ballard, Hezekiah Roberts erected a house on the southeast corner of the lot now occupied by A. T. Ney. He also built the house now occupied by James P. Sherman; but the dates when these buildings were erected are not now known. The latter named house was, subsequent to the year 1840, owned by Townsend Ross, and then by Oliver M. Shedd. It is stated that Rev. John Keep, who came to Homer in 1821 or 1822, also resided here for several years, being succeeded by Chas. W. Lynde. Albert Sherman now owns and occupies the premises.

The two houses on Main street, one at present owned by Miss Emily Ormsby and the other by G. Frazier, were evidently built at an early day; they were formerly owned by E. and C. Shirley, who came to Homer about 1825.

Andrew Burr, who occupied the house situated on the east side of Main street, directly south of the building erected on the corner of Albany street by Joshua Ballard, came to Homer from Connecticut in 1809. Who built the house occupied by him is uncertain. It was at first three stories in height and was used for a time as a hotel. Mr. Burr purchased the building and reduced its height to two stories.

Jared Babcock came to the town at an early day and erected the building on the north side of Albany street, second house from the corner. He, in company with J. T. Clapp, also erected the building long known as the old brewery and were engaged in the brewing of strong beer for many years. The business was disposed of to Almus Stebbins, who continued it until the building was burned.

The residence next to that of Mr. Babcock on the east appears to have been built at an early day, but by whom is not known. Almus Stebbins began his residence there prior to 1830 and lived there a number of years. It was afterwards occupied by Mosely Clark, who was succeeded by Col. Eleazer May, both of whom died there at upwards of ninety years of age. Calvin Bosworth and family removed to the house next and remained for a time.

Just east of the residence of Mr. Babcock and across the river at the stone bridge is a dwelling occupied by Charles Mead, the front portion of which was built by Clement Hayden in 1815. The house on the opposite corner, occupied by George Martin, was also built at a very early day. A little north of this on what is now a vacant lot was the house of Isaac Chaffy, who was an early settler. He was a house joiner, was a member of the Congregational Church and of the choir, and for several years their organist.

Going northward from the present residence of A. E. Hibbard we come to the site formerly occupied by Seth Shaw, where his dwelling stood at a very early day. The front of his house was two stories high, the rear but one, as it stood on the side hill. Mr. Shaw was a wheelwright and manufactured the wheels used in those days for spinning wool and flax. He was a brother-in-law of Titus Stebbins and died about 1825 or 1826.

In 1808 Adin Webb erected a dwelling house on the site now occupied by the Barber Block, but a few years afterward disposed of it and purchased a lot of Capt. Hezekiah Roberts, now occupied by the Baptist Church, where he built a house. He subsequently sold this to Chauncey Keep, and lived two years in the southern part of the village. In 1823 he removed to Cortland.

Daniel Glover, an enterprising mechanic, occupied the first residence south of Mr. Clark's. He came to Homer in 1825, or 1826. He, in company with others, erected "Mechanics' Hall" a few years afterward and subsequently purchased the house on North Main street of M. B. Butterfield, where he remained until he went to live with his son-in-law, where he died. His house in the south part of the village was for several years owned and occupied by Judah Pierce, sen., who died there.

The oldest house now standing in the village of Homer was erected by Andrew Burr and is now owned by Miles Van Hoesen, it being a wing of the house in which he resides. It was used as a meeting-house for a time.

In the year 1800 there were but six houses within the present corporation limits; these have been noticed in connection with the many others above referred to. In 1798 the first school-house was erected; it stood about twelve rods beyond where the railroad crosses the road leading to Little York. The first grist-mill was also erected in that year, where the Darby mill now stands; there religious meetings were first held; but there seems not to have been any trading carried on up to this time.

MERCANTILE INTERESTS.

The first store in Homer village stood a little north of the present residence of J. A. Sherman; it was, as was customary in early

times, filled with a miscellaneous stock of goods for the retail trade, adapted to the wants of pioneers. The building was erected by Hezekiah Roberts, who also built the house now occupied by Mr. Sherman, prior to 1809. It is not known how long Mr. Roberts remained in the village, or where he went. He appears to have been a man of some prominence in the community; was made the commander of an independent company of light grenadiers which became famous for the excellence of its drill and discipline. In 1821 or 1822 the Rev. John Keep took possession of the house erected by Mr. Roberts and resided in it several years. The house and store subsequently became the property of Chas. W. Lynde, who continued mercantile business for several years and resided in the house several years after closing his business. He accumulated considerable property, being considered one of the wealthiest men in the place at the time he left. He was surrogate of the county from 1828 to 1831 inclusive, and State Senator from 1831 to 1834 inclusive. He resided in Homer about twenty years and removed to New York, or Brooklyn, about the year 1840. The old store was occupied subsequent to Mr. Lynde's period of trade by Giles Chittenden, and later by G. W. Sturtevant & Co., but was several years ago removed to the west part of the village, on Cayuga street, repaired and fitted up for a dwelling. Hiram Herrick lived in it for a time and afterwards Oliver Arnold, whose heirs now own it.

Some of the older residents of Homer believe that Reuben Washburne was the first merchant in the village; but if this is true, it cannot be definitely settled at this time. The old building he occupied was a frame structure and is now owned by Justin Pierce. It formerly stood between the Windsor House and William Sherman's "Homer Exchange," and now stands just back of the latter building. Mr. Washburne died just before Mr. Sherman built his store, and upon the erection of the Exchange, the old store was removed to its present position.

Mr. Washburne raised a respectable family, one son becoming a distinguished physician. During the war he was surgeon of a New York regiment and died during that period. His widow, a daughter of ex-congressman Reed, formerly of Homer, is now in California.

Goodwin states in his *History* that the first merchant in Homer was John Coats and that "his store stood on the ground near Harrop's sign post" (the Mansion House), but if so, it could not have been so early; as it was after he and Andrew Burr sold out their tannery before referred to and not much before 1816, when Coats left town; nor could Coats and Burr, who erected their tannery in 1809 have been early enough to have afterwards established the pioneer store in the place.

Jedediah Barber was the first permanent merchant who settled in the place. He came to the village in 1811, but did not engage in the mercantile trade until 1813. The original part of his store, long known as the "Great Western," was erected about that time. He entered into business with limited means, but was very successful and eventually became the heaviest dealer in the Tioughnioga valley, establishing a financial reputation unrivaled in the county.[1]

The "Great Western" stood where the Keator block (formerly called the Barber block) is now located and was known by that name up to the time it was burned. The Keator block was built on these grounds some ten years afterwards, the lot

[1] A wager was made between two men at one time relative to the stock of goods Mr. Barber carried. One bet that any article of commercial value needed in the county could be found in his store. The other taking the bet, they called for a goose yoke. Upon inquiry it was found in stock and the bet was paid.

being idle during the interim. Mr. Barber did more to improve and beautify the village of Homer than any other man and left a name identified with the history of the county.

Benjamin Roberts hauled the first stock of goods sold by Mr. Barber from Albany in a four-horse wagon. He also moved Horace Wilson from Massachusetts to Homer in 1824 or 1825, it taking three weeks to make the trip.

William Sherman, the second pioneer merchant, came to Homer during the summer of 1815, and first engaged in the manufacture of nails. In 1827 he erected the "Homer Exchange," corner of Mill and Main streets, and for nearly thirty years thereafter conducted a heavy mercantile trade.

About the year 1819 Colonel Benajah Tubbs erected the building on the corner of Albany street, at present occupied by G. Chittenden. Mr. Tubbs was succeeded in the store by Thaddeus Archer, following whom came Horace White, Marsena Ballard and Amos Graves. The cost of the brick part of the structure was $4,000.

Caleb Ballard, son of John Ballard, engaged in trade a few years before his death in 1830. His brother, Marsena, succeeded, purchasing the goods left by his brother, but after a few years left the town.

In 1853–54 Mr. Sherman built his new brick structure to the south and adjoining the "Exchange." His brother, John Sherman, and William L., now deceased, were at one time actively engaged in the mercantile business with him. John subsequently left the firm and established the store on the corner of Main and Clinton streets, where W. A. Kellogg's residence is now, and continued there some time.

George J. J. Barber succeeded his father, Jedediah, as a merchant, and afterwards formed a partnership with C. O. Newton, who has been engaged in mercantile business in the village for more than thirty years. George J. J. Barber is now a resident of Syracuse.

George W. Phillips is well-known in the county as an enterprising merchant of over thirty years' standing. Mr. Phillips has been nine years supervisor of the town and was assemblyman two years.

Giles Chittenden was one of the successful early merchants of the place. He commenced business in Hezekiah Roberts's store, as before stated, and afterwards built the store now occupied by Geo. W. Phillips. He has been for fifty years a money lender and has accumulated a large fortune.

Prior to the year 1849 the stores of the village were general in character, each carrying a full line of all kinds of goods; but about the time mentioned business began to be divided, different merchants dealing in special lines.

About 1854 Danziger Brothers began the manufacture of clothing on Main and James streets, where they carried on an extensive business for eight years, both wholesale and retail. They are now located in Syracuse in the same business. O. H. Short, son of the well known Hammond Short, also carried on dry goods business for a few years. He was succeeded by Kingsbury & Walrad in 1861, who traded in the Wheadon block until 1866, when W. H. Haines formed a partnership with Mr. Kingsbury, and under the name of Haines & Kingsbury did business in the Keator block (formerly the Barber block) until 1869, when G. D. Daniels succeeded Mr. Haines, the firm name being Kingsbury & Daniels. In 1875 C. A. Skinner was taken into the firm, which is now known as Kingsbury, Daniels & Co.

Arnold, Woodruff & Pierce formed their partnership in 1877. J. D. Hebard engaged in the trade of fancy goods and notions a year or so afterward, and is now carrying a

special line. In 1877 Miss E. S. Dresser & Co. established the millinery business and are still engaged in it. In 1880 Mrs. G. W. Cottrell also began this trade, and in 1832 Mrs. Baldwin, who was succeeded by Miss Libbie Fisher in the spring of 1883. Each of these ladies carries on a successful business.

Grocers. — The general store of former times excluded special lines, and especially in the grocery business. The following short sketch relates particularly to that branch of trade: The general store of early days supplied the inhabitants with all their family groceries; this was the case down to a comparatively recent period. Not far from the year 1832, when "Mechanics' Hall" was built, Benjamin Roberts kept a small grocery in the east part of that building. Wm. Smith probably kept the next grocery store in the village. It was in the building now occupied by Mr. Simmons as a meat market. Mr. Smith traded there a number of years. The special line of groceries was carried a number of years before the war by Horace Storr, and some time afterward by G. K. Farrington, who was succeeded in 1865 by P. F. Smith & Co. The firm soon changed to Riggs & Smith (1866) and remained such until 1877, when Smith sold out to Riggs, but in 1878 Mr. Smith bought out Mr. Riggs and now conducts the business. His store is well stocked and his trade is good. Mr. Smith's store was burned down on the 16th of December, 1883. He immediately rebuilt and moved into his new and commodious quarters during the month of September following.

L. P. Babcock began the grocery business in 1862. In 1868 he sold to his son, O. A. Babcock, who took in Geo. H. Daniels and traded with him until 1872, when Lytle Ferguson bought Daniels out and remained until 1875. Wm. Gilkerson took his place in 1876 and sold out to John Gilkerson in 1877, and was succeeded by Joseph Maplethorpe in 1878, but in 1879 Mr. Babcock took the store alone. His store was burned December 4th, 1879.

The firm of Frederick & Hovey was established in 1882, in the building erected by Henry Watrous, who had been in the grocery business some years previous. The business carried on by Andrews Brothers, grocers, was established by O. B. and Homer Andrews in September, 1882. The present store building of Newcomb & Churchill was erected by F. T. Newcomb in 1878. Mr. O. C. Churchill bought out Mr. Newcomb in 1879 and in 1882 the present partnership was formed.

Druggists. — The drug business was first conducted in Homer by Geo. Cook, who kept his stock on one side of his hat store. His establishment was on the corner of Main and Pine streets. He sold his stock to Edwin Miles, who was succeeded by J. H. Munger and he by W. C. Coggeshall, who continued the business until December, 1871, when J. C. Atwater bought an interest. A few months later W. H. Kellogg became a member of the firm and they have since carried on the business together. Dr. Loomis kept a drug store for some years, and about the year 1861 John Watson put a line of drugs in his store; he was succeeded in 1880 by C. A. Watson.

Confectioners. — The pioneer fruit and confectionery store of Homer was established by H. A. Kendall in 1846. He did a good business for a number of years. Geo. W. Cottrell afterwards carried on the business and has been very successful. Johnston Brothers established their store in 1877. In 1880 H. B. Johnston took the business and has continued it to the present time.

Manufactures, Milling, etc. — Clement Hayden began the business of cabinet maker in Homer as early as 1815, and for a time carried on quite an extensive business;

but, owing to the influence of some bad habits, became bankrupt. His house was the one at present occupied by Charles Mead, the largest portion of which was used as a cabinet shop. The house was subsequently owned by Philip Putnam, and afterwards by Joseph Clapp, who erected one of the additions on the rear. Cabinet and furniture manufacture was next carried on in Homer by two brothers, E. and C. Shirley, natives of New Hampshire, who came to Homer about 1825. They continued the trade for several years and became the owners of a lot on the west side of Main street (the north corner of what is now James street), where they erected a large addition to the building already on the lot. This building was consumed by fire some years afterward. The Shirley brothers eventually dissolved partnership; C. Shirley went to Syracuse and the other brother carried on business for some years in a shop on James street, with sale rooms on Main street.

William N. Brockway began furniture manufacture in 1852. His large wareroom was kept filled with a variety of finely made and finished goods; he employed a number of skilled hands and built up a very large trade. His place of business was first located on the corner of Cayuga and Main streets, where he also carried on the business of undertaking. In 1855 he removed into the handsome warerooms now occupied by Tripp & Williams, where he continued until 1882, when the above named firm succeeded him. In January, 1884, Mr. Tripp went out of the firm, leaving Mr. Williams sole proprietor.

The first saddle and harness business in Homer was probably carried on by Andrew Burr, who began the enterprise prior to 1816, while he was yet engaged in the tannery business. For many years thereafter he followed this trade very successfully. Eight or ten years later Mr. Burr formed a partnership with Hammond Short, who came to Homer from De Ruyter, Madison county; they continued together for several years. In the mean time Mr. Short erected the house south of Mr. Burr's residence, now occupied by Thomas S. Ranney; he also built another structure on the same lot which he occupied as a harness shop, in which he continued the business several years succeeding the dissolution of the firm, and until the erection of Mechanics' Hall, in 1833, when he removed his business into that building, taking forty feet of the eastern front. This building, for many years the most pretentious in the village, was erected by a company consisting of Horace Babcock, Hammond Short, Daniel Glover and a Mr. Bliss. Mr. Burr purchased the building previously occupied by Mr. Short, and removed it to the opposite side of the street, where he continued the harness business for some years. He died in 1872. Both Mr. Short and Mr. Burr had the reputation of being reliable mechanics and enterprising business men.

C. H. Wheadon was long engaged in this branch of manufacture and trade, being at first associated with Mr. Short, and continuing alone during a period of more than thirty years in all. Ira Tubbs was was also a harness maker for several years, occupying a shop in the Mechanics' Hall. R. B. Newcomb began the business in 1869, and in 1878 sold out to his son, W. B. Newcomb, who still continues it. C. A. Ford & Co. have been engaged in the trade since 1872, at which time they bought out Mr. Wheadon.

George Murray established the hardware trade and tin and copper manufacturing in Homer in 1842. His store was the pioneer in the village in that line; he continued for many years, until succeeded by his sons, G. & J. Murray, in 1869, who enlarged the stock, extended the scope of the business

and built up a very large trade. J. J. Murray is now the sole proprietor; it is the only hardware store in Homer.

Samuel B. Hitchcock came to the town at an early day. His father, Peter Hitchcock, who long resided with his son, was elected one of the deacons of the first church of Homer upon its organization. Mr. Hitchcock settled first upon the land recently owned by David Hannum, near the summit of the hill; his brother-in-law, John Bement, also settled near him. These two men erected a tannery, but how long they continued the business we have been unable to learn. They were both practical boot and shoe makers, and subsequently moved to the village, where Mr. Hitchcock carried on the latter business in a building owned by Mr. Bowen, on Main street. It is stated on good authority that Hitchcock & Bement obtained from the government the first patent for securing the soles of boots and shoes to the uppers with wooden pegs.

Daniel Glover removed to Homer from De Ruyter, Madison county, about the year 1825 or 1826. He was a thrifty mechanic, and followed boot and shoe making for many years. He was one of the company that erected Mechanics' Hall, and continued his business in that building for several years.

Lorenzo Bennett was an early boot and shoe maker, and was succeeded by Benedict & Corey. In 1845 Asa Corey was succeeded by David B. Corey, and continued until 1861, when A. H. Bennett succeeded Mr. Benedict. In 1877 Mr. Corey died, and since that time Mr. Bennett has successfully carried on the business.

Messrs. Chollar & Jones kept a prosperous boot and shoe store in the place for a number of years, beginning in 1849. They were practical business men, well qualified for their work, and secured a liberal patronage. After a partnership of seven years Mr. Chollar continued the business alone until 1879, when he was succeeded by Allen & Shattuck, who still continue it. In 1874 C. E. Wills began this trade in a small way, and, with considerable increase in his stock, is now engaged in it.

The first silversmith in the village of Homer, who made a permanent location, was John Osborne. He erected a building directly east of the one on the corner of Main street, north of Giles Chittenden's present residence, and which was used for a long time as the post-office. Mr. Osborne came to Homer about the year 1826, and followed his calling until somewhat advanced in age, when he sold his business and spent the remainder of his life in retirement; he died many years since. He was succeeded in this line by D. D. R. Ormsby, whose honorable business career extended over many years. George Dana traded after this for a time, but left the village in 1881. J. J. Reider began the business in 1879, and is now the only jeweler in the village.

Matthias Cook came to Homer about the year 1809, and began the manufacture of hats — the first establishment of the kind in Homer. He erected a building suitable for his purpose, which is still standing near the river. Mr. Cook was a young man possessed of industry and integrity, and built up a successful trade. He was made county clerk in 1821; Member of Assembly in 1824, and received a second nomination in 1831, but was defeated by Andrew Dickson. This event produced such a depressing effect upon Mr. Cook's mind as to partially unsettle his reason, in which condition he committed suicide in November, 1831. After Mr. Cook's death his son, B. K. Cook, succeeded to his father's business; but his death about the year 1832 transferred the establishment to his brother, George Cook, who continued it for many years, gradually relinquishing the manufacturing branch.

C. A. Collins, hatter and clothier, began business in 1850, and still carries a stock of hats, though his principal trade is in ready-made clothing. F. Higbee is also engaged in the same business. He was associated with Mr. Babcock from 1877 to 1879, and with Mr. Darby until recently. The merchant tailoring business in Homer, formerly conducted by C. A. Collins, has been since 1882 in the competent hands of Mr. D. B. Quick.

In 1798 the first grist-mill in the town, as it was also the first in the county, was erected by John Keep, Solomon Hubbard and Asa White. It was burned in 1840 and at once rebuilt as the present Darby mill. The first stones were procured from the bank east of Lyman Hubbard's. The bolts were purchased by Mr. White in Utica. The mill in its original condition produced flour of a very ordinary character; but it being the only one in the county, the inhabitants were not disposed to be very particular as to the fineness or quality of their flour. Mr. White subsequently purchased the interests of his partners and refitted and greatly improved the mill. The structure was at that time probably the most pretentious and imposing building in the place; for there religious meetings, public gatherings, social parties and balls were held. At one of the early social parties the managers were placed in a rather unpleasant predicament, as neither rum nor molasses was to be found in town. The lack of these necessaries at a ball in those days would have been considered almost an unpardonable breach of gallantry on the part of the gentlemen, so a special messenger was dispatched post haste a distance of thirty miles to Manlius Square, for a gallon of rum and half as much molasses, with which "black strap" was made for the company. The grist-mill passed through many hands. Messrs. Bowen & Goodell owned it in 1855. Townsend Ross and Noah R. Smith each owned it for a time. In 1863 Darby & Wilcox sold it to L. & L. Darby, who transferred it to Stone & Sheldon in 1865. In 1871 Darby & Son bought it and in 1871 Darby & Huntington were the owners. In 1875 L. & W. H. Darby took it and in 1880 the present owner, W. H. Darby, became the proprietor. The mill has four run of stone and grinds 15,000 bushels of wheat annually.

Adjoining the old mill built by Keep, Hubbard and White, was a wool carding and cloth dressing mill built by Anañias Jenks at a very early day. It was a great convenience to the people and did a large business. There were a number of proprietors, among whom were Henry Devoe, Justin Pierce and Simeon S. Bradford. The mill was burned in 1841 and was not rebuilt.

Aaron Benedict built the original grist-mill on the site of the present stone mill, south of the village, having bought the site of Daniel Knapp; it was a frame building and gave place to the stone structure, built by Dr. Lewis Riggs in 1837; he sold it to Mr. Westcott. J. A. Tisdale is the present owner and has recently converted it to a roller mill. A saw-mill was connected with this grist-mill for many years.

The original cotton factory that stood opposite the present stone structure, now used as a grist-mill by Geo. W. Southwick, was built soon after the beginning of the century by Asa White. It was a profitable enterprise until it was burned soon after the War of 1812. A grist-mill was then built on or near that site, but that was torn down to give place to the present stone structure, which was erected by a stock company in 1834. In the company were Jedediah Barber, Wm. Sherman, Colonel Williams, Judge Berry and others. Its use was abandoned for quite a period. J. O. Pierce & Co. bought it in 1851 and kept it eight years. In 1859

it was sold to J. B. Kent, now a merchant in Syracuse. In 1862 John L. Boorum & Co. purchased it, dismantled it of the cotton machinery and arranged it for flax-breaking purposes. It then was idle a few years previous to its being changed to a grist-mill by its present owner in 1875. Barney Payne was a member of the firm of J. O. Pierce & Co. During their proprietorship there were 51 looms and 2,400 spindles in the factory. They manufactured wide cloths, sheeting, batting and flour sacks. Steam power was added in 1852, and the basement was used as a machine shop for building and repairing. On the second floor was the carding and spinning and on the third weaving, while the fourth was devoted to spinning and dressing. The cotton was bought in New York and the manufactured goods returned there for sale. Belonging to the factory were thirty or forty acres of land on which stood thirteen or fourteen tenement houses for the employees. Labor was then very cheap. Weavers worked by the cut and could earn but from $2.50 to $5.00 a week. Skillful spinners received twenty shillings and board; mule spinners $9.00 a week and other hands about $2 a week. They were paid off every three months, but in the mean time credit was given them at the general store on the premises and belonging to the firm. Cotton was then worth from seven and a half to eleven cents a pound and although wages were low this industry, with its large number of employees, served to keep up a good degree of activity in the village.

William Sherman came to Homer village in the summer of 1815 and located near the cooper shop. He soon after erected a machine shop for the manufacture of nails — the first factory of the kind in the State. The machinery was adapted to feed, cut and head the nails, without manual assistance. On the head of each nail was stamped the letter "S." Four-penny nails were then worth twenty-five cents a pound. Mr. Sherman and Mr. Barber were also engaged in the manufacture of oil at an early period.

The first cooperage was done in the village by Benjamin Symonds at an early day; he was located between the residence of Mr. Cook and the river, and continued the business until late in his life, when he was followed by his sons. They finally sold out and went to Eaton, Madison county.

The tannery now owned by Abel Gere was originally established by Chester Collins and Elijah Pierce. It was built for them by Hosea Sprague, who removed a building from near the site which had been used as a pottery. The building was erected in 1825 and was burned in 1878, when the present structure was built. Twenty-five years ago Thomas Boland owned the property, continuing it for eight years. Wm. Coggeshall succeeded him for eight years, and in 1875 the present owner took it.

Jacob Sanders, jr., located in Homer village in the fall of 1825, erected buildings and began the foundry business on a very limited scale at first. His bellows used to raise the heat for melting ore was moved by horse-power. This foundry was on the east side of Main street at the southern end of the village. The iron plow had been invented not long previous and Mr. Sanders entered quite largely into the manufacture of this necessary farm tool. His business constantly increased and in 1838 he erected the building on the opposite side of the street, enlarged his plant and put in a machine shop. This structure was burned on the night before election in 1844, but the steam-engine was saved. Mr. Sanders immediately rebuilt and continued the business until 1853, when he transferred the property to J. W. & A. Stone, who have for the long period since that time conducted the establishment. They now manu-



facture circular saw-mills, mill and general machinery, farming machinery, etc.

The edge tool manufactory of R. Blanshan & Co. stood on the east bank of the river and was run by steam, for the manufacture of axes and other edge tools. The building was erected by William Heberd, a brother-in-law of Jedediah Barber. The business was originally begun prior to 1812.

Messrs. Gross & Robinson began the manufacture of writing ink in Homer in 1853, on a rather limited scale. They made the American chemical writing fluid, which attained a large sale. The business is now abandoned.

The planing-mill and carpenter shop of George W. Almy was erected in 1853. The building was thirty by sixty feet and a fifteen horse-power engine drove the machinery. A turning shop was afterward built for the manufacture of tool handles. A large business was carried on for a number of years. A shoe-peg factory was afterwards placed in the same building. The mill was run by Hicok, Barber & Co., until their failure a few years since.

The great cutter manufactory of Gage, Hitchcock & Co. was first established by Gage & Bishop in 1868. The firm manufactured during their first year 105 cutters and employed but one man. The original firm continued until 1879, when it was changed to its present composition. In that year 3,000 cutters were made; in 1880, 8,000; in 1881, 14,000; in 1882, 15,000, and in 1883, 15,000. About 100 men are employed and their product is shipped to all parts of the Northern States.

The butter firkin factory of S. M. Clark was established in 1873, and is now manufacturing about 15,000 tubs and 10,000 pails annually, giving employment during the busy season to twelve to fifteen men.

Westcott's foundry and machine shop was established by George N. Westcott, in 1877. It is a successfully managed establishment, doing an exclusive jobbing business, and is well supplied with machinery and tools for general custom work.

The Homer oil cloth manufacturing company is becoming one of the leading industries of the place. The company was organized in 1882, since which time the business has increased beyond the anticipations of the managers. Under the efficient immediate direction of George Murray, jr., another large building is soon to be erected to meet the demands of the business. The capital stock of the company was made $100,000, which will undoubtedly be increased. The product of the factory is carriage and floor oil-cloths, with a present capacity of 600 yards per day. The present officers of the company are: Coleman Hitchcock, president; Charles O. Newton, vice-president; George Murray, jr., secretary and treasurer. The board of directors consists of Coleman Hitchcock, C. O. Newton, George Murray, jr., Byron Maxson and W. F. Hitchcock.

A manufacturing interest of importance was established in Homer in July, 1874, by Willett Fisher, for the production of the celebrated Fisher platform spring wagon gears. Only four or five men were employed at the first, which number has increased to twenty-one. About 3,500 gears are manufactured annually, which find a market in all parts of the country.

In the year 1875 W. N. Brockway began the manufacture of platform spring wagons in Homer, in a building opposite the foundry at the southern end of the village. The first year about fifty wagons were turned out and an equal number of buggies. Under good management the business rapidly increased, until it is one of the most prominent industries of the place. Several large new buildings have been erected, nearer the center of the village, and a fifty horse

power engine furnishes motive power for the establishment. The blacksmith shop has twelve fires, is 100 by 30 feet and employs 40 men in ironing the wagons. About 150 men are employed and 2,500 excellent vehicles are turned out annually.

The banking business of Homer is now transacted by the First National Bank which was organized on the 7th of September, 1878, with a cash capital of $100,000. Business was begun in this institution on the 8th of October of the year mentioned. The executive officers have remained unchanged since the organization, with one exception. They are G. N. Copeland, president; George Murray, vice-president; W. H. Crane, cashier. The directors are J. M. Schermerhorn, J. P. Cottrell, George Conable, G. W. Phillips, A. W. Hobart, Nathan Kinney, P. C. Kingsbury, A. Francisco, with the president, vice-president and cashier. The bank has been very successful and its credit is high.

It will be inferred from the foregoing review of the manufacturing and mercantile interests of Homer village that rapid strides in those directions have been made since the incorporation of the place; indeed, a good deal had been accomplished in this respect previous to that event. The population had reached about one thousand, and it was generally believed that the village would be the leading one of the county. But better facilities for communication with distant markets were sadly needed. All hopes of making the Tioughnioga river permanently available as a commercial highway had been given up, and reliance placed upon State roads, teams, stage coaches and ordinary wagons. Prior to the opening of the Erie canal in 1825, the merchants' goods were brought up to Albany, then conveyed by land to Utica and thence to Homer; or, were sent through Wood creek, Oneida lake, Onondaga river and down the Tioughnioga. Wheat, potash and other products were either shipped on rafts and boats down the Tioughnioga and Susquehanna rivers to Baltimore, or were transported to distant markets by teams. This unpromising state of affairs led to frequent and anxious discussion of railroad connection with the outer world, resulting finally in the building of the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad. The charter was first secured in 1836, but the road was not built and opened for business until 1854. Deacon Amos Rice, Jedediah Barber and Israel Boies, of Homer, were very prominent in forwarding this enterprise, which was destined to be of such vast importance to the town. Further details of the construction and opening of this railroad will be found elsewhere in these pages.

Incorporation. — By the year 1821 Homer village had reached an important position in the county. There was not very much wealth in the place, but a good deal of business was done, principally in the way of exchange. Jedediah Barber, Captain Tubbs, Hezekiah Roberts, Giles Chittenden, Keep & Dickson and Andrew Burr each had a store. The cotton factory and grist-mill were doing a prosperous business; numerous asheries and distilleries were in operation; travel was considerable, stages running north and south through the valley, from Syracuse to Binghamton and Owego, and to De Ruyter. Goods were transported from Albany to Homer at one dollar per hundred pounds, and hotel patronage was good. There were then (1821) but three brick houses in the village — that of Dr. Owen, where George Murray now resides, and those of Newell Jones and Captain Tubbs.

Mr. William O. Bunn came to the village in 1834 and has given us a brief description of the place at that time. The number of stores had considerably increased. Russell

Williams carried on a general trade in a wooden building where W. Kellogg's residence is now located, and William and John Sherman where John Arnold is now. Deacon Loammi Kinney, now more than eighty years old, cut and made clothing for the gentry in a little shop standing on ground now occupied by the Homer bank. Hardin Slocum was located near by in a gun shop, where he repaired and made guns for many years. Mr. Barber's store stood where the Keator block now is. Coye & Stone had a wagon shop where the Wheadon block stands. Joel Heberd was near by in a general store and just south of him Dr. Lewis Riggs was located. Harry Coburn sold groceries, and Mr. Southwick was conducting the cotton factory. Calvin Slocum kept the hotel which is now the Hotel Windsor. Wm. Heberd was offering cast steel axes (work done by Stephen Vail) at $1.75; old axes jumped and ground for seven shillings, as we learn from the *Cortland Observer*. Giles Chittenden was dealing in dry goods. Miles Morgan and E. & C. Shirley were in the cabinet business.

Such was the general business aspect of the village when steps were taken for its incorporation. For this purpose a meeting of the inhabitants was called in the basement of the old Calvary Church, which was long used as a town hall, on the first Tuesday in June, 1835, under and in pursuance of the act of Legislature, entitled an act to incorporate the village of Homer, passed May 11th, 1835. Augustus Donnelly and Lewis B. Canfield presided as inspectors of the election of trustees directed to be chosen. Candidates were voted for separately, resulting as follows: Augustus Donnelly, David Coye, Russell Williams, Hammond Short, Lewis S. Owen, Geo. J. J. Barber. Jonathan Hubbard was chosen clerk.

These trustees held a meeting at the office of Augustus Donnelly on the 18th of June, at which Mr. Donnelly was elected president of the board. The board again convened on the 25th of June, and their first enactment was as follows: —

"It is hereby ordained by the trustees of the village of Homer, that from and after the first day of July next, all firing of crackers and squibs be prohibited at all time; that all firing of cannon, guns and pistols, ringing of bells, making any noise so as to disturb the quiet of the inhabitants within the corporation between the hours of ten o'clock in the evening and four o'clock in the morning, be prohibited, under the penalty of five dollars for each offence."

The following are the present officers of the village: —

Trustees — Coleman Hitchcock, Joseph Watson, Frank T. Newcomb, Philip Zimmer and James A. Sherman.

Clerk — John M. Coats.

Treasurer — Charles O. Newton.[1]

Police Justice — A. Judson Kneeland.

Police Constable — Wm. A. Shirley.

At the meeting of the village board on June 25th, above referred to, they resolved to take into consideration the expediency of raising money for the purpose of building a fire engine house, procuring hooks, ladders and "for such other business as shall be deemed necessary." For this purpose a special meeting was called for Friday, the 3d day of July. It was there decided to build a suitable house, large enough to contain two engines, the building to be located in the center of the public green; the cost to be $150. A small hand engine was subsequently bought, which is still in use and sustaining the reputation it has always borne for efficiency in extinguishing fires, in spite of its insignificant size. The little engine-house is also still standing.

These were the facilities for extinguishing fires until in March, 1873, when steps were taken towards the purchase of a steam fire

[1] Mr. Newton failing to qualify, the board appointed W. H. Crane, who now fills the office.

engine. This was accomplished at a cost of $5,600, including hose cart, 1,000 feet of hose and other appurtenances. Hoel Pierce was the first engineer, at a salary of $125 a year. A. W. Hobart, C. Collins and John Van Hoesen were made a committee to purchase a lot for the engine house. This resulted in the purchase from T. D. Chollar of a lot 28 feet front and 43½ feet deep on James street, for which $285 was paid. The engine house was built in 1873 by A. H. Perry at a cost of $2,100.

Post-Office. — Townsend Ross was the first postmaster in the village of Homer. The office was first located in a building near the store of George W. Phillips. John Osborne was the second official in the office, and he was followed by Dr. Lewis Riggs, who came to Homer 1818. Then there were successively in the office, George Ross, J. P. Stone, G. J. J. Barber, A. W. Kingsbury and the present incumbent, Newell Jones. Each of the last three mentioned held the position eight years. Five mails are received and distributed daily from the post-office at the present time.

Hotels. — The first tavern established in Homer village was kept by John Ballard; it was opened to the little public soon after Mr. Ballard came in, in 1803. He purchased his farm on the west side of Main street and built his log cabin on the ground now occupied by the residence of J. M. Schermerhorn; to this he added a room inclosed with boards and hung out his sign of entertainment. It is probable that this pioneer hotel was not kept open more than a short time.

The first permanent hotel in the village, was what is now the Hotel Windsor, which was built by Major Stimson, who conducted it for many years. In 1829 he was succeeded by Calvin Slocum, who continued it until 1850. Thomas Harrop was the next proprietor of the house; he gave it his own name, but retired five years later and was followed by L. Van Anden; the house enjoyed a prosperous career as Van Anden's Hotel. He was followed by John Patten, who kept it for several years, since which time there have been numerous changes in the management, which need not be specially alluded to. The present proprietors, Thomas White & Son, took the house in 1883, and under their experienced direction it has become a popular one.

The Mansion House was erected about the same time as the other house. The The exact dates in either case are not available, but it is generally believed both houses in their original form, were built as early as the War of 1812. Judge Bowen was probably the first landlord of the Mansion House, and afterwards his son, Oren Bowen, kept it down to 1853, when it was sold to Amos Graves. T. D. Chollar was the next owner (1859) but three years later he sold it to Richard Beck, of New York, whose heirs still own it. The house was leased to Thomas White in 1860, he succeeding Thomas Harrop, who had conducted it as a temperance house under Mr. Chollar's ownership. In 1868 Ingles & Mills took the house for three years. A Mr. Tripp then occupied it; then Thomas White until 1877; John Klock until 1879; George Crane until 1881; Thomas White again until 1883. In April of that year the property passed under the management of John Ryan, the present proprietor.

The third hotel in the village was the building at present occupied and owned as a dwelling house by Miles Van Hoesen. It was not open to the public very long.

The fourth public house was built in 1816 by Joshua Ballard, and is at present used as a store and dwelling by I. M. Samson. Peter Westerman kept it for a time about 1824. He was followed by Benajah

Tubbs, who was there in 1832. Judge Harris, a son-in-law of Mr. Tubbs, then kept it for a time and was followed by Geo. W. Samson, 1838–39; Hiram Bishop, 1848–50; George W. Samson to 1853; I. M. Samson, his son, from 1853 to 1873, when it was closed to the public.

A glimpse over the local newspapers twenty years after the incorporation of the village (1855) will give us an indication of its growth and its business status at that time. Here we find notice of a meeting of the stockholders of the American Chemical Ink Company, of which H. H. Gross was president. Babcock & Kinney announced a great rush at the Homer clothing store. Wm. Sherman & Son were in the dry goods trade and made announcement indicating a thriving business. Mrs. Preston decorated the heads of the ladies, and Chester A. Collins was then doing a successful business as a merchant tailor. George W. Phillips offered to make hard times easier by selling his dry goods cheaper than the cheapest. C. O. Newton, groceryman, advertised a large stock of goods, but during the following year formed a copartnership with Geo. J. J. Barber and V. T. Stone, in the "Great Western." Paris Barber was engaged in the lime, plaster and sand trade. Chollar & Jones were in a shoe store in the north half of the Bank block, doing a business of $10,000 a year. E. F. Phillips carried a stock of gloves, etc., and Lorenzo Bennett of boots and shoes. E. H. Osborne, and Geo. W. Bradford were selling books, and Henry B. Burr was in the insurance business. Raymond Smith was manufacturing wagons near the southern river bridge and Wm. N. Brockway had just entered his new furniture warerooms. Chas. W. Wheadon announced the removal of his stock of new harness, saddlery, etc., a few doors south of J. Barber's store. D. D. R. Ormsby was in the jewelry business, while L. P. Wood sold the heavier metals in the shape of iron and copper ware at No. 8 Sherman Building. Bennett & Woodruff sold cloths and clothing. W. P. Beck was the well known daguerrean artist. A. Roberts, who had purchased the grocery store of Wm. R. Smith, advertised ice for sale. What is now the Hotel Windsor was then Van Anden's Hotel, while the Mansion House was then occupied by Thomas Harrop, for many years a popular landlord. W. L. & C. A. Morgan kept a restaurant under Wheadon's Hall. R. D. Cornwell & Co. had a livery stable and ran a daily line of stages to Glen Haven. J. C. Terry also was in the livery business. J. Ball, G. W. Bradford, Josiah Patterson, C. Green and W. R. Brown were the physicians of the place.

Schools. — The first school-house erected in the village of Homer was located about twelve rods beyond where the railroad crosses the wagon road leading to Little York. The second school building stood on the public green; it was a small, rude affair and was built prior to 1801. The third building for school purposes was also erected on the green; it was a two-story structure in which were employed two teachers. This building stood until the year 1839, when it was sold at auction and bid off by "Squire" Canfield for the Methodist Church society. In it the first court in the county was held prior to 1809. The building is at present owned by Pembroke Pierce and stands on the corner of Eagle and Cayuga streets In the year 1819 the first academy building was erected. It was originally two stories high and of wood, 54 by 32 feet in dimensions; subsequent additions were made until it was 54 by 100 feet. It was used until 1869, when the present handsome structure was erected.

Joshua Ballard was the first teacher in the town of Homer; but it is not now known how long he presided in either of the early

school-houses. The next teacher of prominence was Adin Webb, who is described as "a tall, straight, sprightly young man, dignified in demeanor and with a good education." With but one year as an exception Mr. Webb taught seventeen successive years. He was a native of Windham county, Conn.; his father was one of the heroes of the Revolution and served in that portion of the army that was engaged in the battle of Bennington and the capture of Burgoyne. In 1800 Mr. Webb was married to Deborah Carter, and they came with his parents to this State, locating near Cazenovia lake. In 1805 he was solicited by friends to come to Homer and teach the village school for a term of ten months. Being a capable singer he taught singing school at the same time, and being successful in both vocations, he decided to remain and make his permanent home in Homer. During the whole period of his residence here he was leader of the choir in the Congregational Church.[1]

In this connection mention should be made of the name of Stephen W. Clark, who for a number of years was principal of the Academy. He was a man of varied attainments and was the author of an analysis of the English language, an etymological chart and a practical grammar, in which words and phrases are classified according to their offices and their various relations to one another, all of which works met with general recognition. Mr. Clark was the third son of Joseph and Mary Clark, and younger brother of Myron H. Clark, ex-governor of New York. He was born at Naples, N. Y., April 24th, 1810. After spending his earlier years in agricultural pursuits in his native town and as a mercantile clerk in Canandaigua, he finished his preparatory studies in Franklin Academy, Prattsburg, N. Y., and entered Amherst College in 1833. Here he devoted himself especially to the study of natural sciences, graduating with honor in 1837. He soon entered upon his chosen profession and followed teaching almost without interruption for many years. He was at different times principal of Groton Academy, the Monroe Collegiate Institute, East Bloomfield Academy and Cortland Academy.

From the common school which was so long and so successfully taught by Adin Webb on the spacious "green" grew the Cortland Academy, which has for sixty-five years nestled among the churches, gradually and surely earning a reputation and making for itself a history honorable to its conductors and to the county. The academy was chartered under its present name on the 2d of February, 1819. Among its original trustees were Rev. Elnathan Walker, Dr. Lewis S. Owen, Dr. John Miller, John Osborne, Chauncey Keep, David Coye, Noah R. Smith and Rufus Boies. Revs. Alfred Bennett, John Keep and Hon. E. C. Reed were soon after elected to fill vacancies in the board. Prosperity attended the school almost from its first opening. The inhabitants of Homer and surrounding towns took a deep and abiding interest in the institution, patronized the school liberally and aided its success in many other ways. It soon became the most popular and widely-known institution of learning within a circuit of many miles. The only endowment ever possessed by the academy, other than the good will of the people, was the use of a county school lot, which was sold in 1835 for $3,733. The prosperity of the academy continued until the breaking out of the Rebellion, which partially paralyzed its work for a time.

In 1873, an unsuccessful effort having been made to secure an endowment, and the condition of educational matters in the village demanding the provision of better

[1] Further reference to Mr. Webb's life will be found in the history of the town of Cortland.

facilities for free instruction, five districts were mainly consolidated in Union District No. 1, of Homer, the trustees of the academy resigned their trusts, according to law, to a board of education, the district assumed all the indebtedness of the academy, and guaranteed to maintain a first-class classical and academic department, and the school was reorganized under the present system and name. Each year since this change was effected has increasingly shown its wisdom and witnessed the growing prosperity and success of the institution.

It is impossible in this brief sketch to name the subordinate teachers who, during all these years, have helped forward the good work of the school; much less can the many noble names enrolled among the graduates of Homer be here recorded. The first principal of the academy was Prof. Catlin. He was shortly succeeded by Prof. Noble D. Strong. Then came Prof. Avery, now of Hamilton College; Prof. Franklin Sherrill, and Dr. Taylor, now of Auburn. In 1830, Dr. Samuel B. Woolworth, now Secretary of Board of Regents, accepted the principalship, which position he held for twenty-two years. To him the school was greatly indebted for its prosperity and commanding influence during this period and for years succeeding. He was followed by Prof. Stephen W. Clark, who remained for twelve years. Then, during the trying days of the academy's history, came successively Profs. Nichols, Sanford and Manley. The first year following the reorganization the school was under the charge of Prof. C. W. Verrill, since which time (1871) it has been under the care of Prof. Ezra J. Peck, A. M.

A substantial fund is in trust for the academy, through the bequest of Zebadiah Coburn, the avails of which are used in payment of tuition for Christian young men of all denominations who study here in preparation for the university.

The present instructors of the academy are: E. J. Peck, A. M., principal; Latin and Greek. Miss C. E. Hutchings, A. B., preceptress; Higher English, French and German. H. Frank Miner, A. B., mathematics and natural science. Charles V. Coon, preparatory. William A. Coon, first intermediate department. Mrs. H. M. Sheldon, second intermediate department. Miss Flora Copeland and Miss Emily C. Ormsby, third intermediate department. Mrs. S. C. Webb, first primary department. Miss Elma L. Williams, second primary department.

The board of education consists of Wm. A. Robinson, president, Thomas D. Chollar, Edward J. Bockes; terms expire 1885. Vernon T. Stone, George Murray, jr., Sumner C. Webb, M. D.; terms expire 1883. J. Clayton Atwater, Caleb Green, M. D., George W. Phillips; terms expire 1884.

CHURCHES.

The First Baptist Church. — The three Baptist Churches, namely, in Homer, Cortland and McGrawville, having had a common origin in the original Baptist Church of the old town of Homer, it is proper that a preliminary sketch should be made in this place, beginning in the spring of 1793, after four or five families had moved in and made a permanent settlement, and reaching up to the organization of the present society in 1827.

The first inhabitants of Homer, irrespective of creed, met in common on the Sabbath for worship, until the year 1801, when circumstances occurred which led the Baptist members of the little community to make provision for their divine worship. On the 3d day of October, 1801, sixteen persons united and were publicly recognized as a Baptist Church. The council consisted of Rev. James Bacon, New Woodstock;

Rev. Nathan Baker, De Ruyter, with one lay brother, and Rev. Joseph Cornell, a missionary who was providentially present. This was the first church of any denomination formed within the limits of Cortland county; but it was only nine days earlier than the organization of the Congregational Church. The names of the first members of the Baptist society were John Keep, Joseph Beebe, Daniel Crandall, Peleg Babcock, Cornish Messenger, Roderick Beebe, James H. Wheeler, Frances Keep, Rhoda Beebe, Submit Keep, Rhoda Miner, Martha Messenger, Mary Bishop, Susannah Crandall, Esther Wilcox and Molly Wheeler. John Keep was appointed clerk of the church, which office he held for twenty-seven years. Joseph Beebe was appointed deacon, but he died about seven months later, and Prince Freeman, of Virgil, was appointed to the office.

No regular pastor was stationed in the hamlet for some time; but an ordained minister named Leisure preached for the church once in two months until Rev. Rufus Freeman was called to preach once a month for one year. Prior to this time they had occasional sermons from Rev. Joseph Cornell, James Bacon and P. P. Root.

The first effort to raise money to support the Gospel was an average assessment upon each member, which amounted to seven dollars and two cents. The highest amount paid was two dollars and six cents and the lowest thirteen cents.

Rev. Alfred Bennett subsequently became pastor of the church. He was a remarkably gifted man and became known throughout the country as such. He served this church twenty years, having come to the town in 1803 and united with the church in 1804. He began preaching in 1805. In April, 1806, the church record shows the following: —

"Voted, that Brother Alfred Bennett have liberty to improve his gifts where God, in His Providence, shall open a door."

A resolution was recorded in February, 1807, calling him to ordination, which event occurred on the 18th of June of that year, in Judge Keep's barn, which is still standing. At the same meeting which passed this resolution for the ordination, the following was passed: —

"Voted, that Dr. Asa Bennett be on trial for a deacon."

It appears he united with the church by letter in 1806. Thomas Chollar united with the church by letter in 1810, and was made a deacon in 1812; he filled that office for about thirty years. His son, Deacon T. D. Chollar, was called to the same office forty-two years ago and has ever since maintained the same high Christian standard of character of which he had an example in his father.

The increase and changes in the pioneer church during the first ten years of its life were as follows: Added by baptism, 67; by letter, 65; dismissed by letter, 47; seven were excluded and five died. During this period the meetings were held alternately in Homer, Cortland village, Port Watson, on the East river; and finally, by the united energies of the denomination, a site was secured on the road from Homer to Cortland, at the point where it turns northward, now within the boundaries of Cortland village; there a comfortable church building was erected; it was 52 by 36 feet, with gallery on three sides, and without steeple. This church was erected in 1811 and was consecrated to the worship of God in June, 1812. In the building of the church a debt was incurred of about $1,000, or nearly one-half its cost, and they were without means to pay it; but before a year had passed the society had doubled its membership, the debt was paid off and the

regular congregations were large and devout. In the revivals of that period, forty-nine heads of families were converted and brought into the church.

As early as 1808 the society voted to meet on a given day to improve themselves in singing; from that time forward a few of the members devoted their indefatigable efforts to raising the standard of the church music. From 1811 to 1821 was a period of remarkable prosperity to the church, the number of members increasing from sixty-eight to over four hundred. In 1820 there was a revival which added to the number largely; but towards the close of the year the little community suffered irreparable loss to its Christian workers in the death of Rev. Elnathan Walker, of the Presbyterian Church, and not long after, the death of Deacons Jacob Hobart and Asa Bennett, and John Keep.

In 1820 Moses Curtis and Oliver Stedman were elected deacons of the church. During this second decade of its existence there were added to the church by baptism 333, and by letter 107; there were dismissed by letter seventy-nine; twenty-one were excluded and twenty-two died. In the year 1827 the church contained nearly 500 members, and the little edifice had become far too small to contain the congregations who assembled from Sabbath to Sabbath. The result was the establishment of three Baptist Churches — one in Homer village, one in Cortland village, and one in McGrawville. New buildings were erected in these places, leaving the mother church in the center, which was, however, soon abandoned, and a new structure erected in Cortland, as stated in the history of that village. After these changes the pastor continued his labors in Homer village until 1832, when he was succeeded in the Cortland church by Rev. Peleg Card, and he by Rev. Alfred Gates; in the McGrawville church by Abner Sylvester. The number of members added to the church from 1820 to the time of its division in 1827 was about 122 by baptism and fifty-two by letter.

The great popularity of Rev. Alfred Bennett led to his being offered and solicited to take the nomination for Assemblyman against Samuel Nelson. The latter was a candidate who could be defeated only by one whose popularity would draw the entire strength of the Republicans, and the approaching convention for the revision of the State constitution made the election one of the greatest importance. But Mr. Bennett demurred to allowing the use of his name for political office, and finally positively declined; he was, however, made the candidate against his wishes, and was defeated only by a few votes from members of his church, who voted against him from Christian principle.

As the church became larger, and the community advanced in culture and refinement, Mr. Bennett's innate modesty and distrust of his own power led him to urge the society to accept his resignation, and put in his place a man with broader education. With much reluctance these requests were finally acceded to, and after securing the services of Rev. W. R. Whiting, Mr. Bennett resigned and accepted the office of agent of the foreign missionary board of the Baptist Church in the United States, which place he filled for twenty years. Rev. Mr. Whiting remained with the church about two years, and then became connected with the American Union Baptist Bible Societies, and for the next forty years labored on translations of the Bible, in which work he became eminent.

The next pastor was the Rev. Edward Bright, D. D., now editor of the *Examiner*, the most extensively circulated Baptist journal in the world. Following him came

Revs. Reuben Morey, Hezekiah Harvey, Mr. Clark, G. W. Brigham, and some others, for short periods, until 1880, when Rev. S. E. Wilcox became pastor. He has recently resigned (1884). The membership is now two hundred and sixty. T. D. Chollar, M. A. Radway, M. M. Newton, Joel Gates are the deacons. C. E. Benedict is superintendent of the Sunday-school.

The Congregational Church.[1] — This has often been styled a church with a history, not only as one of the oldest churches of this denomination in this vicinity, but especially because of its eventful record, and its prominence and influential position among the churches of Central New York, is this designation appropriate. The early settlers of the town often impress their characteristics upon the subsequent history of that town in a marked degree. If they are pious and God-fearing men, the institutions they found and the prevalent tone of society they give will long manifest the effects of their godly and self-sacrificing character. Homer was peculiarly blessed in this respect. Of the two men, Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe, who made the first settlement here in 1791, the first named was a constituent member of the Congregational Church, and the other a member and office-bearer in the Baptist Church. As soon as six families had settled here, in 1793, religious worship was instituted upon the Sabbath, and it has been steadily maintained from that day to this. Well may "Father" Keep exclaim in his historical sermon, preached in 1824, "Memorable was the day and mighty in its influence upon the character of this town when these six families erected a public altar for the honor of God." Such was the character of these pioneers of society here that it passed into an adage that it would not do for any but "go-to-meeting folks" to settle in Homer. At the first the Sabbath services were held in the houses or barns of the settlers, and most frequently near the present Glenwood Cemetery. The first school-house — a rude log structure, built in 1795, which stood a little north of the present site of the village, was sometimes used as a meeting place. In the fall of 1798 a grist-mill was built upon the site still occupied for like purpose near Mill street, in this village. This structure was used as a place for Sabbath worship when the cold was not too intense. During these years the inhabitants themselves conducted their public services on the Lord's day. From the spring of 1798, however, there were occasional visits to the town by missionaries sent out by the Connecticut Missionary Society and the Presbyterian General Assembly.

The first sermon preached in town was by Rev. Asa Hillyer, D. D., of New Jersey, in the early summer of 1798. Not long after Rev. Seth Williston, of blessed memory in all this region, spent some weeks in special labors here, and a number were hopefully converted to God. September 10th, 1799, the first religious society of Homer was organized, and duly incorporated on the 25th of November following. This society still maintains a vigorous existence, supporting the institutions of the Congregational Church.[1]

[1] Prepared by Rev. William A. Robinson.

[1] In the society's record book, following the preamble and articles of this organization, is the following covenant: "Know all men by these presents, That we whose names are hereunder written, for the consideration of twelve cents, received of the Board of Trustees of the first religious society of Homer, etc., do covenant, promise and agree to pay the sums set to our names, to be appropriated to the maintenance of the preaching of the Gospel," etc., with a proviso that any persons removing to a greater distance than four miles from the place of worship should be discharged from their obligations until their return. Various sums are subscribed, as $150, $100, fifty cents, etc., down to twelve and a half cents. Of the latter there is a large proportion. Next on the book appears a record of the election of two trustees, December 6th, 1799. In the record it is stated — "There being no elders, church warden or vestry belonging to

A few days after the incorporation of this society, viz.: December 1st, 1799, a building, designed to serve the double purpose of a school-house and place for public worship, was dedicated, the sermon, from I. Kings, VIII chapter, 38th verse, being preached by Rev. Mr. Lindsley. This peculiar edifice was divided within by an immense swing partition, and stood near the northeast corner of the present village green. Prior to the organization of the first religious society, the formation of a church had been proposed, and at a meeting held in the fall of 1798 twenty persons presented themselves for that purpose; but questions of church polity and denominational preference arose, and though discussed temperately, and in a Christian spirit, caused the postponement of any church organization, all continuing to worship together and to sustain the first religious society. A satisfactory adjustment of the questions about polity was made in the fall of 1801, and on October 12th fourteen persons entered into solemn covenant with God and with each other, as "The Congregational Church of Homer." The following were the constituent members in this important organization: Eliphalet Rice, elected the first deacon of the church, April 21st, 1803, and his wife, Mary; Samuel Hoar and his wife, Dorothy; Timothy Treat and his wife, Beulah; Darius Kinney and his wife, Lydia, who was the last survivor of the original fourteen, dying in 1845; Peter Hitchcock, the second deacon, elected December 13th, 1804; John Ballard, Thomas L. Bishop, John Baker, Daniel Miner and Amos Todd, already mentioned as one of the two pioneers of the settlement of the town.

At the time of the formation of the church, Mr. Abial Jones, who is styled in the records "a candidate preacher," was chosen as the moderator and served in the ministry of the word till the following year. In the fall of 1802 Rev. Nathan Darrow came to Homer and December 10th he was called to the pastorate of the church. Accepting their invitation he was ordained and installed February 3d, 1803, by a council of representatives of the churches in Manlius, Geneva, Owasco, Lisle, Pompey, Clinton and Cazenovia. This was a marked event in the history of this church and of religious progress in Central New York. Less than a year after this, "the middle association" was formed at Marcellus, this church being one of the constituent churches and being represented by its pastor and Deacon Rice. Rev. Mr. Darrow is described as a man of medium size, with brown hair, a light hazel eye, endowed with good natural talent, but without extensive culture; somewhat austere in his manner, but full of energy and decision, and faithful in the discharge of his duties. He filled the office of pastor till 1808, and the church, which numbered about twenty when he came, had received ninety-three additions under his ministry, nearly half of them the fruit of a revival enjoyed in 1806. During his pastorate the church took efficient action in looking after the education of the children and youth of the town, instituted "the standing committee," to attend to executive affairs of the church, and established "the Thursday p. m. meeting," which has been sustained with remarkable vigor to the present time. In 1805 a church edifice, 50 by 72 feet in size, was erected upon the site now occupied by the present church edifice, six acres of land, including the present village green, having been given to the society for this purpose and for public uses. It was a great undertaking for that day, to build so commodious and elegant a struct-

said society, the members do agree, nominate and appoint that the said society shall be hereafter distinguished by and taken for the first religious society in the town of Homer."

ure; and with subsequent repairs and enlargements, it served the uses of the congregation till replaced by the present edifice.

Rev. Mr. Darrow was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. Elnathan Walker, who was ordained and installed October 24th, 1809. Mr. Walker was a person of dignified bearing and fine personal presence. He was tall and erect in carriage, easy and graceful in speech and gesture, of fair complexion and clear gray eyes, looking out through the spectacles which he constantly wore. He was a native of Taunton, Mass., and a graduate of Brown University. He is the only pastor who has died in town. His death occurred June 4th, 1820, and occasioned universal sorrow. A plain marble shaft in the cemetery bears this inscription to his memory: —

"This monument is erected by an affectionate people, as the last testimony of respect to their beloved pastor."

The pastorate of Mr. Walker covered what was a determining period in the growth and prosperity of this church and society. The church, which numbered 99 members when he came, had increased to 427 at the time of his death. Especially did the three marked revivals enjoyed during this time contribute to this result. The memorable one of 1812–13 added 188 persons to the church in a single year. That of 1816 was also one of especial power, while the one that immediately preceded Mr. Walker's death was inaugurated by a peculiar victory of divine grace over personal estrangements and animosities. Some members of the church had become alienated from the pastor and at length a council was called to consider and act in reference to these grievances; but being debarred by the rules of the Presbytery (with which the church had become associated in 1811) from acting officially, the members of the council set themselves at work to effect a reconciliation. In this they were remarkably successful and the records say, "Mutual concession and forgiveness commenced and after a most tender and melting season of two days, all their difficulties were amicably settled."

The successor of Mr. Walker in the pastorate was Rev. John Keep, who was installed November 7th, 1821. Mr. Keep was a man of sterling good sense, strong in his convictions and interested in all matters of public welfare. He, with the church, took pronounced position upon temperance, and were foremost in every good work. In 1824 the meeting house was thoroughly repaired and re-dedicated November 23d. The following year the Presbyterian Church at Cortland was formed, several members being dismissed from Homer to co-operate in its organization. In 1826 the church was blessed with a revival and fifty-seven additions. In July, 1827, the present Baptist Church of Homer was established. The following year the town of Homer was divided by act of Legislature and the town of Cortland organized. The academy, which had been incorporated in 1819, found in Mr. Keep a wise counselor and staunch supporter. Under Mr. Keep's leadership the church inaugurated the holding of so-called "protracted meetings" in 1831, and six such seasons were held within three years and large accessions made to the membership of the church. In the last of these meetings held in June, 1833, Rev. Jed. Burchard labored in his own eccentric way and with mixed results of good and evil for the church; as one effect, the pastor resigned his charge and was dismissed the 3d of October, 1833.

In December of the same year Rev. Dennis Platt was called to the pastorate and was installed March 12th, 1834. Mr. Platt was a decided and positive man and held a firm hand in the discipline of the church. He

was a good sermonizer and possessed of no ordinary executive ability. The year 1835 was a year of in-gathering, eighty-two being added to the church. Mr. Platt resigned his pastorate and was dismissed April 7th, 1842. His death occurred in Norwalk, Conn., in 1878. All of his successors in the pastoral office are yet living at the time of this writing, and therefore no reference will be made to their personal characteristics. The immediate successor to Mr. Platt was Rev. Thomas K. Fessenden, who was called by the church December 1st, 1842, and installed early the next year. The year of his installation was also a year of revival, sixty-three being added to the church. The chapel was erected in 1843 and dedicated with appropriate services January 12th, 1844. Another revival was enjoyed in 1850. During Mr. Fessenden's pastorate, which was terminated at his request, in 1853, 276 persons were added to the church. Throughout this period the benevolent contributions, which were faithfully watched over for many years by Dr. Geo. W. Bradford, steadily increased. For a year after Mr. Fessenden's dismissal the pulpit was ably supplied by Rev. Thomas Lounsbury, D. D. March 6th, 1855, Rev. J. A. Priest was invited to the pastorate and soon after installed, and again a pastor's first year of service was gladdened with a precious revival and eighty-two added to the church. The pastoral relation with Mr. Priest was dissolved in May, 1858, at his urgent request, on the ground of his health. September 7th of the same year Rev. Albert Bigelow was called to the pastorate, soon after installed and continued in that office till he resigned and was dismissed October 1st, 1863. The 8th of the previous July the present commodious and elegant church edifice was publicly dedicated to the service of the Most High. The sermon on the interesting occasion was preached by President Fisher, of Hamilton College, and Rev. John Keep was present and participated in the services. In addition to the generous and liberal efforts of the church and society in building its substantial house of worship, the later years of Mr. Bigelow's pastorate witnessed the inception of the War of the Rebellion, and pastor and people felt the urgent demands upon their patriotism and nobly responded with earnest efforts to provide men for the army, and generous contributions through the Sanitary and Christian Commissions to alleviate the horrors of war.

February 23d, 1864, Rev. John C. Holbrook, D. D., was called to the pastorate and was installed in July, 1865. In 1868 a very powerful revival was experienced and 148 were added to the church. The same year the church withdrew from the presbytery, with which it had been connected on the "plan of union," and assisted in the formation of the "Central Association." In October of the same year the "State Association" met at Homer, Deacon S. Holmes serving as moderator, and L. W. Bacon, D. D., preaching the sermon. In September, 1870, Dr. Holbrook accepted a call to Stockton, Cal., and was dismissed from his pastorate of this church.

April 18th, 1871, Rev. Wm. A. Robinson received a unanimous call to the pastorate and began his labors here June 8th. He was installed by council on the 13th of the following December. In 1873 the State Association again met in Homer, H. M. Storrs, D. D., serving as moderator, and Wm. M. Taylor, D. D., preaching the sermon. The following year the chapel was thoroughly repaired and refurnished. In 1875 the church edifice was renovated and improved in its interior, at an expense of over $1,200. October 12, 1876, the church and congregation celebrated with great interest the 75th anniversary of the formation

of the church. An historical sermon was preached by the pastor. Letters from former members and from the sons of Homer in the ministry were read, suggestive tributes were paid to some of the earlier pastors and deacons, and the work and influence of the church set forth in appropriate addresses. The present pastorate has continued at the time of this writing nearly thirteen years, being the longest upon the record of the church. It has covered a period of peculiar transition. Very many of the fathers and mothers who were conversant with the earlier history of the church have finished their earthly course during these years. Marked changes have also occurred in the business condition of the village and town, and in the character of the population. Reorganization of the academy, long the pride of the town, has also been effected during this time, and a school brought up to the efficiency and success of its palmiest days. The pastor of this church has been for nearly eleven years president of the board of education, and has helped to secure the results in the quality and work of the academy which have been accomplished. Amid all these changes this church has kept steadfastly on its way, doing a noble work and exerting an influence that is widely recognized by an intelligent and genuine public spirit, by a ready and generons beneficence. By a staunch and evangelical faith, and by the endeavor to use those methods that tend to build up and strengthen true Christain character in young and old, it has been true to its former history and able to maintain its honorable position.

The review of the record of this church, so closely and influentially identified with the history of the town, discloses several causes which, under God's blessing, have contributed to its notable strength and efficiency. It has been blessed with a succession of able and consecrated officers. Its ministers have been faithful and devoted, and some of them men of rare ability and power. Its deacons have been earnest and capable, and not a few of them have been conspicuous examples of the truth that "they that have used the office of a deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus." The church has also enrolled upon the list of its members an unusual proportion of men and women, strong in their convictions, catholic in their spirit, devoted in their piety, generous in their giving, and consecrated in their life and example. It has from the first taken a wise and consistent interest in the right training of the young. Throughout the years it has watched over the home nurture and school instruction of the youth with sedulous care. It was foremost in the sacrifices which brought the academy into being, and which have accompanied its history. Its Sabbath-school was just about coeval in date of origin with the academy, and it has enjoyed the faithful labors of officers and teachers throughout these more than sixty-five years. In benevolent contributions to carry forward the great evangelical movements at home and abroad, this church has an enviable record. By its organization of young and old for this end, and by its stated gifts, it has fostered the missionary spirit, and tried to do its part in fulfilling our Lord's great commission to his followers. For many years there has been upon the whole a steady increase in the amount of such benefactions, till for the last decade, under the faithful care of Dr. S. C. Webb, they have averaged over $1,600 per year. The social meetings have from the first been both the evidence and the aid of genuine spiritual life. The Thursday p. m. meetings, already spoken of, and the young peoples' meetings have contributed greatly to

the efficiency and growth of the church. More than a score of the sons of the church have entered the ministry, and many of these in missionary fields at home and abroad, or in important pastorates, have wrought ably in the Master's name. About 2,500 persons have been enrolled as members of the church. Its greatest numerical strength was during the pastorates of Mr. Fessenden and Dr. Priest. According to the report of 1883, its membership now numbers 405 persons.

Reviewing the notable history of this church, who can fail to be impressed with the thought of the breadth, importance and duration of its direct and indirect influence. From this quiet, rural town, by its aid, streams of blessing have flowed out and on, whose renewing and refreshing power has been felt near and far, and whose results for human good only eternity can disclose. If "they who direct an age's intellect are more potent than they who do its deeds," certainly the work of a church like this, which has done so much to direct the intellect, inspire the faith, cultivate the character and shape the life of so many, may claim an importance and grandeur which words cannot fully portray.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—Memoranda from which to make a history of this church is exceedingly meagre. The church records have been mislaid or lost, and but few facts are now attainable. The first organization was formed at the comparatively recent date of 1833. The Methodists of Homer were formerly connected with the church in Cortland, and thirteen of the original members of the Homer church were from that society. To these were added sixteen others, making the first membership of the Homer church twenty-nine, a little band which has grown into a flourishing society.

The first public services were held in the second story of the public school-house, which was afterward purchased, repaired, and transformed into a church. This was used until the year 1841, when a new church was built at a cost of about $2,400; Rev. George Parsons was the pastor at that time. In 1864 the church was enlarged and repaired, during the pastorate of Albert L. York. Again, in the year 1881, an addition was made to the church building by raising it and putting under it a basement. It was also refitted and furnished, at a cost of about $4,400; Rev. R. C. Fox was then pastor.

The first trustees of the church were Caleb Cook, David Baker and Samuel Lane.

The successive pastors, with the years of their service, have been the following: —

Nelson Rounds, 1834; Rufus Stoddard, 1835–36; John Crickman, 1837; John E. Robie, 1838; E. L. Wadsworth, 1839; John Nason, 1840; George Parsons, 1841–42; William Bixby, 1843–44; John E. Robie, 1845; E. G. Bush, 1846; Z. D. Paddock, 1847–48; William N. Cobb, 1849; J. Hartwell, 1850–51; S. H. Brown, 1852–53; Isaac Foster, 1854; W. H. Willis, 1855–56; H. Gee, 1857–58; H. S. Richardson, 1859–60; J. L. Wells, 1861–62; A. L. York, 1863–64; Alexander Hale, 1865; D. R. Carrier, 1866–67; A. M. Lake, 1868–69; A. N. Damon, 1870–72; J. V. Benham, 1873–74; M. S. Leet, 1875; S. Ball, 1876–78; R. C. Fox, 1879–81; M. S. Leet, 1882–84.

Trustees — S. F. Salisbury, F. Pierce, J. Wilber, W. H. H. Blaney, E. J. Bockes, J. J. Woodruff, J. J. Arnold, Warren Salisbury, Charles Joslyn.

Stewards — S. F. Salisbury, J. J. Woodruff, Charles Joslyn, M. J. Pratt, J. J. Arnold, Warren Salisbury, H. D. Allen, H. C. Wildey.

Local elder — L. J. Wheelock.

Local preacher — E. D. Terpenning.

Class leaders — F. G. Williams, John Van Denberg, J. J. Woodruff, J. J. Arnold, G. N. Bryant, E. N. Warfield.

The congregation, at present under the charge of Rev. M. S. Leet, is in a flourishing condition, and the membership is something over two hundred.

Calvary Church. — The first service of the Episcopal Church within the limits of the present town of Homer, was held in the Congregational meeting-house, by the Rev. Reuben Hubbard, rector of St. James's Church, Danbury, Conn., in June, 1813. Mr. Hubbard was visiting relatives then living here and had many kinsfolk among the early settlers of the town, and on one or more Sundays in June, 1813, was invited by the Rev. Mr. Walker, the pastor of the Congregational Church to officiate in his pulpit. While visiting here Mr. Hubbard called on a family in the western part of the town by the name of Terrill, and baptized several children. This was probably the first time a sacrament of the Episcopal Church was ever administered in this county.

The next ten years came and went with no record of visitation of any clergyman of this church, except that Bishop Hogarth passed through the county and preached, but whether at Homer or Cortland is not known.

In 1823 Mr. Hubbard again visited Homer and on the evening of February 23d preached in the Congregational Church, by invitation of Rev. Mr. Keep, then its pastor. In 1828 Mr. Hubbard again came to Homer and again on March 2d preached in the Congregational Church, by invitation of Rev. Mr. Keep.

In February, 1831, Rev. Henry Gregory, then missionary at Moravia and Genoa, visited Homer and held service on Monday evening, February 14th, in the upper room of the old academy, and shortly afterward arrangements were made by which Mr. Gregory was to officiate at Homer one-third of the time. It was soon determined to organize a parish and due notice having been given according to law, on Monday, June 6th, 1831, Calvary parish was regularly organized by the election of Daniel Glover and Augustus Donnelly, wardens; Lyman Kendall, John C. Marvin, Asa Austin, Ammi Beers, Hiram Bliss, Joel Hubbard, Marsena Ballard, Albert F. Boland, vestrymen. On December 5th, 1831, the first meeting of the vestry with reference to building a church was held, and on June 21st, 1832, the corner-stone of Calvary Church was laid; on Advent Sunday, December 2d, 1832, the church was occupied for the first time. The Rev. Thomas Meacham officiated for several months on the Sundays when Rev. Mr. Gregory was absent, and on February 14th, 1833, the Rev. Mr. Gregory, having resigned his charge at Moravia and Genoa, became rector of the parish and continued as such until November 10th, 1835, when he resigned to become a missionary to the Indians at Green Bay. The Rev. Charles Jones succeeded him and remained in charge of the parish till October 23d, 1836, when the Rev. Mr. Gregory was invited to take the rectorship again, at a salary of $500 and expenses of his return. June 13th, 1837, Mr. Gregory reached town and resumed his charge. In September, 1838, Mr. Gregory was granted leave of absence for one year, in order that he might go as missionary to the Indians at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The Rev. Mr. Ogle acted as minister of the parish during the rector's absence. In November, 1840, Mr. Gregory was called to the rectorship of St. Paul's Church, Syracuse, and offered his resignation to the vestry, which was regretfully accepted. In January, 1841, Rev. E. B.

Foote, of Newark College, Delaware, was invited to become the rector of the parish, and shortly after he accepted the charge, which, however, he retained but two years, when he was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Goodale, who remained as rector until July 1st, 1846, when he was succeeded by Rev. G. M. Skinner, who remained until the fall of 1848, when the Rev. Charles E. Phelps became rector and continued as such until August, 1851. He was succeeded by the Rev. Reuben Hubbard, who remained three years and was succeeded by the Revs. Geo. L. Foote and H. V. Gardner, as ministers in charge of Calvary Church and the outlying parishes of Cortland, McLean and Truxton. In 1857 Rev. Peyton Gallagher became rector. He was followed by the Rev. C. S. Percival, who resigned in the spring of 1864. In the fall of 1865, after an interval of more than a year without a service, the church was opened and services were resumed. Lewis B. Henry, esq., of New York City, having returned to this village, acted for a time as lay reader, and through his influence among church people in New York, funds were raised by which the interior of the building was refitted, and in April, 1866, Rev. A. W. Cornell, of Jamaica, L. I., was called to the rectorship. Mr. Cornell remained in charge of the parish until the summer of 1871. From that time until 1874 only occasional services were held by visiting clergymen. In the fall of 1874 Rev. J. W. H. Weibel was called to the rectorship and remained nearly two years, since which time services have been held at very infrequent intervals, until the present year, when Rev. A. D. Allen, missionary in charge, has established regular and stated services.

LITTLE YORK.

This hamlet is situated in the northern part of the town of Homer, on the line of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad; it is a small place containing one grist-mill, a store, hotel and about twenty houses.

The early settlers on this lot (No. 6) where Jabez Cushman, who was one of the very first; William and I. Blashfield, and Oren Cravath. Cushman was probably from Massachusetts, and erected the mills, the saw-mill being built first. This mill was in use in 1813, when Thomas Howard removed to Preble, and may possibly have been the one in which the lumber was sawed for the first frame houses built in Preble before 1806. Mr. Cushman also built the carding-mill at this place, in an early period. Daniel Radway probably purchased it of him. In the Cortland *Observer* of December 28th, 1832, we find the following: —

"The subscribers having taken the woolen factory in Little York, of Mr. Daniel Radway, will manufacture cloths, cassimeres, satinets and flannels as low as any other establishment in the county. They will manufacture either on shares or by the yard, all colors except indigo blue. Also carding and cloth-dressing at the usual prices. The best of machinery for manufacturing will be put into operation. Being all experienced workmen, they flatter themselves that they will give general satisfaction.

"RALPH PALIN,
"JOSEPH BRADLEY,
"WILLIAM TAYLOR.

"Homer, June 20, 1832."

This business continued prosperous for many years, Jedediah Barber owning it at one time; but it gradually declined, as was the case with all similar factories in the vicinity, and the building is now used as a general shop by B. J. Salisbury.

The grist-mill was erected soon after the building of the factory; but it changed hands a number of times. J. E. Cushing bought one-half of it in 1840 and continued in it until 1860; Gideon Curtis owned the other half. Anthony Kenyon, Gustavus Lyman, whose name was changed at his

request by the legislature to Nathaniel Bradford, and others owned the mill. Mudge & Son have owned it for about twelve years past and it now does a good class of custom work only. Mr. Powers Mudge has the entire management of the mill.

It is probable that the early trading at Little York was done by Jabez Cushman (but nothing very definite regarding it is known) until the arrival of Isaac Otis and Gideon Curtis in 1830. They had an interest in the mill property and probably had a small store in connection with their other interests. Curtis was an intelligent Quaker and was Member of the Assembly in 1829. Mr. Otis removed to the West. Mr. Curtis continued the store from 1834 to 1846. In 1844 J. E. Cushing joined with Curtis in the store and in 1846 bought out his partner; since that time he has conducted the business alone. The post-office has always been kept in the store, the proprietors of which have been the postmasters.

A public house has been kept in Little York from an early period. Mr. Cushing first kept a boarding-house during his stay in the place, and in 1833 John L. Wilcox built a private house which he afterwards transformed into a tavern; this was subsequently burned. The present hotel was erected in 1875, by Chas. Foster. Charles Gay took possession of the property in 1883.

The shop for the manufacture of churns and chopping knives was established in 1883, by Isbell & Cushing. Their knives are made from the best Sheffield steel, are corrugated and reversible, and promise to attain a large sale. They also manufacture the celebrated rotary gang churn.

Of the early settlers on this lot one of the most prominent was Oren Cravath, a noted abolitionist and one of the foremost supporters of the "underground railroad," an organization engaged in helping southern slaves to attain their freedom.

In order to secure the stoppage of the railroad trains at Little York (which was at first refused by the company) the citizens built a small frame depot, the use of which they gave to Frank Donegan, an industrious employee of the road. On the morning of May 15th, 1877, while Mrs. Donegan was out milking her cow, the building caught fire; it was a period of drought, and before assistance could be rendered the little structure was burned to the ground, and the lives of five children, the oldest of whom was but nine years, were sacrificed. The people of Little York rendered all possible assistance to the afflicted family and immediately rebuilt the present depot.

EAST HOMER.

This is a small hamlet situated on the east branch of the Tioughnioga river, and contains a hotel, Methodist church, a store, two blacksmith shops and a carpenter and wagon shop.

The first settlement made on this site was in 1797, by John Albright, a Revolutionary soldier who, for his services in that struggle, was assigned a bounty lot, which he resolved to set out in search of, thinking he would dispose of it and return to New York. He had married and had four daughters. Mrs. Albright had a different object in view, and, as sometimes happens, her plans were carried out. She resolved to accompany her husband on his expedition into the wilderness, and if they succeeded in locating their lot, to settle upon it and make it their home. The family left New York with a span of horses and wagon and proceeded as far as Johnstown, then in Montgomery county, where they left their wagon and children in the care of friends and proceeded on horseback, arriving in Homer in the year above noted.

They succeeded in finding their lot (No. 29), built a log cabin on a small piece of



SILAS BLANCHARD.

ground which they cleared, returned to Johnstown and brought their family and little outfit to their forest home. Upon this lot is situated the little village of East Homer. Mr. Albright's house stood a few rods distant from the site of the Methodist chapel. From Charles Kingsbury's published reminiscences of Homer, we copy the text of the original deed which secured to Mr. Albright his land: —

"The deed 'grants and confirms unto John Albright all that tract of land lying and being in the county of Montgomery, and in the township of Homer, known as lot No. 29, containing six hundred acres, with all the rights and appurtenances to the same belonging; excepting and reserving to ourselves all gold and silver mines, and also five acres of every one hundred acres of the said lot of land for highways; on condition that within the term of seven years from the first of January next ensuing the date thereof, there shall be one actual settlement made on the tract or lot of land hereby granted. Otherwise, these, our letters patent to the estate hereby granted shall become void.'"

This deed is dated at the city of New York the eighth day of July, 1790, and passed the secretary's office on the 4th of the following September. It is quite a curiosity, and bears the old-fashioned heavy detached seal of the state, which is made of wax enclosed in paper and tied with a stout string to the parchment.

After Mr. Albright's settlement in the wilderness he experienced some trouble and several narrow escapes from wild animals. On one occasion, after having killed and dressed a pig, he carried some of the pieces to a brook a few rods away, when a wolf, which had scented the blood, bounded on the scene. Mr. Albright placed himself inside the fence surrounding the yard; but none too soon, for the wolf was close to the fence on the other side. When Mr. Albright assumed the offensive from behind the fence the cowardly brute disappeared in the forest.

On another occasion Mr. Albright started in search of his cows. He soon learned by the sound of their bell that they were in the woods on the opposite side of the river. He forded the river, but as night came on the sound of the bell ceased, the animals having lain down. As he stood under the branches of a tree, gun in hand, listening for some sound which would indicate the whereabouts of the cows, he heard a movement in the boughs of the tree directly over his head. Immediately a large bear descended the tree, reaching the ground near where Mr. Albright stood, and he shot him. Before he had finished reloading his gun a second bear came down from the same tree and escaped. The third bear then came down and was shot, and while Mr. Albright was reloading two more of the animals descended from the tree and disappeared in the woods; thus he killed two out of five bears, in the darkness.

A Mr. Holford was probably the second inhabitant of east Homer; he built his cabin for the time being on Mr. Albright's land. On one occasion when Mr. Albright was absent from home, Mrs. Holford heard a disturbance near the house, where a pig was shut in a pen. On going to the door she discovered a bear of such size and strength that he took the pig of 135 pounds weight and carried him bodily over the fence. Mrs. Holford comprehended the situation at a glance and hastening into the house, she grasped the loaded gun, ran out and fired at the bear with such excellent effect that he fell dead in his tracks. The pig was unharmed.

An early settler at east Homer was James Smith, who came to that locality in 1798 and built a log cabin near the southwest corner of the lot, a few rods from the present road, on the southeast side and a short distance from Mt. Etam. Whence he came is not now known, but he spent several

years of his life here and had two sons, one of whom, Cornelius Smith, lived to an advanced age and passed his entire life in the town.

The first tavern in the vicinity of East Homer (on lot 29) was built by George W. Samson, who removed to the place in 1812. He erected his buildings on the steep hillside, excavating for that purpose, and opened a hotel in 1825, to which premises he gave the name of Mt. Etam. From a spring on the side of the hill he brought excellent water in a pipe, for domestic uses and to supply a reservoir at the roadside for travelers. Near at hand he set up a post, on the side of which and protected from the weather by a glass, was posted a paper on which was inscribed, in one of Mr. Samson's poetic effusions, the invitation of the fountain, as follows: —

"Come, traveler, slake thy parching thirst,
And drive away dull care;
Thou needst not broach thy little purse,
For I am free as air.

"My source is on the mountain side,
My course is to the sea;
Then drink till thou art satisfied,
Yea, drink, for I am free."

Mr. Samson resided at Mt. Etam for a number of years, but finally sold the premises to Peter Westerman, and removed to a hotel in Preble.

In the year 1806, or 1807, Benjamin Goff, an industrious laboring man, came to East Homer from Vermont. He married the eldest daughter of John Albright and during the life of his first wife resided on the eastern side of Mr. Albright's lot. He afterward married the youngest sister of his first wife; he kept the tavern from 1831 to 1837, in the same house now kept by Mrs. L. R. Rose, to which locality he removed when Mr. Albright made a division of his property. Luther R. Rose was Mr. Goff's son-in-law; he kept the hotel from 1840 until his death in 1881, and it is continued by his widow.[1] Travel, however, has been comparatively light through this place since the completion of the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira railroad through the valley, as elsewhere described. Formerly the village and vicinity was given an appearance of thrift and business by the passing teams engaged in the transportation of goods, and by stages, all of which made East Homer a stopping place for rest or refreshment. Tavern-keeping at such points was then a profitable business; but like many other small villages located between those of greater size, the building of the railroad carried away the larger share of its trade to other points.

Trade and Manufactures. — Benjamin Goff was the first citizen of East Homer to engage in a manufacturing industry. He began early in the manufacture of rakes and other minor agricultural implements and eventually carried on quite a profitable business. He subsequently built a saw-mill, which is now in the possession of his heirs.

The present blacksmith and wagon shop was erected by Henry Meeker some years prior to the last war. The structure was originally built for a grist-mill and was used as such for a time. It was finally sold to Leroy Smith and others, and at last passed into possession of D. D. Locke, who changed it to a wagon shop about the year 1860. S. B. Hoag took possession of the property in 1876, and is now manufacturing about forty wagons annually.

Jabez Haight began blacksmithing in East Homer at a very early day, and followed the trade for over forty years. His son, George Haight is a skilled taxidermist and has become eminent in that work.

Physicians. — Dr. Sheldon Hinman came to this place in 1864 and is the only phy-

[1] It is worthy of remark that at one time Mr. Goff's father and mother, and his wife's parents all resided with him, making four occupants of one dwelling all of whom were between the ages of 82 and 86 years.

sician now in East Homer. He is of the homœopathic school, a licentiate of the Cortland County Medical Society. He succeeded Dr. Barris, who was eclectic in his practice. He was the first physician here.

Post-Office. — The post-office of East Homer was probably first kept by William Haight. He came to the village in the year 1809 and was for several years an eminent preacher in the Methodist Church. He married the second daughter of Mr. Albright, became a drunkard, forfeited his license, but afterward reformed and did useful work for the church. William Bennett afterward took the post-office, and was the first to establish a store. Mrs. Bennett followed the trade until 1883, when it passed into the hands of the present proprietor, W. R. Woodward. Mrs. Melissa Haight now has charge of the post-office.

The Methodist Episcopal Church. — This church had its beginning in the humble home of Mr. Albright, of which denomination he was an exemplary member; his house was the place of worship for quite a period. The present church building is an old structure, the main part having been erected in 1841, since which time it has been somewhat improved and repaired. It was dedicated in 1842. Rev. H. Hawley was the first pastor. The present membership is between sixty and seventy. The Rev. T. F. Harris came here from Woodstock in 1883 and assumed charge of the church; he is also superintendent of the Sabbath-school. The present trustees are Abram Griffith, Pardon Lyon, Levi Klock and Andrew Briggs.

Hibbard's cheese and butter factory is situated about a mile and a half north of East Homer. The building was erected in 1866, and is 30 by 120 feet, two stories high. Modern appliances have been put in for the perfect manufacture of butter and cheese, and a large business is done.

EAST RIVER.

This is a hamlet of a dozen houses on the line of the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira railroad, about four miles from Cortland village. James Horton was an early resident at this place and carried on a tannery. He was thrifty in his business and secured a competency. His tannery buildings were once burned; but he rebuilt them and finally disposed of his real estate to Conrad Kleine, who continued the business for several years on a much larger scale. The tannery was subsequently burned again and was not rebuilt.

The first saw-mill erected at East River was located near the present East River Mills, and was built by Daniel Crandall. He had purchased and moved to lot No. 38 in 1800, and built for himself a house on the site now occupied by the mill. It was a characteristic pioneer structure, apparently not adapted for occupancy by human beings; but Mr. Crandall was a man of industry, sound judgment and integrity, and he prospered accordingly. In company with Samuel Griggs he finally erected a grist-mill, which did a good business for a number of years. He also erected other buildings on his farm and at the time of his death (1857) had a large and excellent house there.

The water power at this site is a very valuable one. In 1816 Eli Carpenter came from Tolland, Conn., purchased a share in the water privilege and lands contiguous thereto and put up a fulling-mill and facilities for dyeing and dressing cloth, with carding machine, etc. This establishment was very prosperous for several years and the business was further extended by Mr. Carpenter in the manufacture of carpets of brilliant colors, dyed by himself. In the mean time Mr. Crandall's mills had become somewhat impaired by age and about the

year 1835 or 1836, he became the sole owner of the site and water power, and proceeded to erect new mills. The business revived, but the domestic manufacture of cloth declined yearly and was eventually abandoned. The mills erected by Mr. Carpenter are still standing, but have been much enlarged and changed to meet the growing needs of the vicinity. A large business is done in the manufacture of flour and feed and in the production of lumber. Alfred Utley succeeded Mr. Carpenter in the mills, following whom came the present proprietors, the Holmes brothers in the saw-mill, and the Cortland Wagon Company in the grist-mills, which are managed for the company by Wm. H. Moore. Mr. Carpenter was a man of energy and business ability and prospered in whatever he undertook. He was justice of the peace a number of times, and died in 1863.

Hosea Sprague, a native of Brimfield, Mass., came to East River with his brother-in-law, Samuel Sherman, in 1821. He was a good mechanic, a carpenter and joiner, at which he worked until the year 1850, when he settled in Homer village and retired from business. Mr. Sprague was one of the pioneer carpenters of the town and has helped to erect many of the early buildings in this part of the county. He still lives in Homer village and enjoys good health at the age of ninety-three years.

The mill built by Asa Austin passed into the hands of Samuel Summers; then to Isaac and Wm. Miller; then to John Hammond, who sold it to Samuel Byram, the present owner.

CHAPTER XX.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE.

THE town of Cortlandville was not formed until the 11th day of April, 1829, at which time it was set off from the old military township of Homer (No. 19) of which it comprises the southern half; two lots from the town of Virgil have been added to Cortlandville since its first formation. It is bounded on the north by the town of Homer; on the east by Solon and Freetown; on the south by Virgil and Freetown, and on the west by Tompkins county. It is nearly centrally located between the northern and southern county boundaries, and upon its western border. Its surface is sufficiently varied to give it a picturesque aspect, being made up of lofty hills in the eastern and southern portions, gentle eminences between the eastern and western branches of the Tioughnioga river and in the central and western portions, while along the river and in the vicinity of the junction of the two branches of the stream are broad level valleys that are not excelled for beauty and productiveness. Upon the broad plain which stretches away southward and westward from the locality where the waters of the two river branches start southward towards the sea, seven different valleys of varying widths converge from as many different points of the compass. On this plain has grown the beautiful village of Cortland. The surrounding hills, broken by these numerous valleys; the broad plain cleft by the classic stream and its swiftly-flowing tributaries and stretching away to a distance of two miles in either direction, and the thriving village set in the midst, combine to form a scene of rare nat-

ural beauty when viewed from any adjacent eminence, and a site worthy of a great city.

The soil of the town of Cortlandville is composed of a rich alluvial deposit along the valleys of the streams, while portions of the plain in the central part of the town and the hilly regions are gravelly and argillaceous loam. There is very little of the town that is not susceptible of cultivation, but the hilly portions are, perhaps, better adapted for grazing than for tillage.

The town is well watered and drained; both the east and west branches of the Tioughnioga flow through it, forming a junction not far from the center, the main stream then continuing southward to the boundary. Into the river and its branches flow Otter creek from the west and Trout creek from the east, which are in turn fed by numerous clear springs that send their wholesome waters through all parts of the town.

This region was originally heavily timbered, beech, maple, elm and hemlock being most abundant, and interspersed with ash, cherry and other woods. Much of the site of Cortland village was formerly covered with a forest of towering elms.

Speaking with direct reference to the boundaries of the town, John Miller and his family were the first settlers within the present limits of the town of Cortlandville, outside of the extreme probability that Beebe and Todd built their first habitation in the town, as stated by Mr. Kingsbury, in the preceding history of the town of Homer. Mr. Miller made his permanent settlement in the spring, 1792, having explored the valleys of the Tioughnioga branches the previous season, with Amos Todd and Joseph Beebe. He had two sons, of one of whom but little is known; but he probably died at an early age. The other was Daniel Miller, afterwards well known throughout the county as "Deacon" and "General" Miller.

The family settled on lot 56, where they erected a rude shanty at the junction of the two roads now leading from the villages of Homer and Cortland to Truxton, and just in front of the present residence of T. Mason Loring. Daniel Miller was about eighteen years old at the time of their arrival in town.[1] They paid for their land and began improving it by clearing off the timber. Not long afterward a young man appeared on the scene and laid claim to the land on the ground that he had been a soldier and had drawn the lot, and had not conveyed it away; that if they had bought and paid for it they had been imposed upon; furthermore that he himself was a minor and could not legally have conveyed the land to any one. Under these circumstances Mr. Miller made a bargain with him, by which he was to remain with Mr. Miller until he was twenty-one years old, when he could give them a title to the land. When that time arrived, the Millers paid him for the land and he disappeared. It afterwards developed that he had deceived them in regard to his age, and that he was not twenty-one when he sold them the land. His friends, being dissatisfied with the terms on which he had settled with Mr. Miller, sent him away, circulated reports of his death, and then claimed the land as his heirs; this scheme was not successful, however, and they then brought him to life and began anew. During several years Mr. Miller was harassed with threats, dis-

[1] When Mr. Miller came to the spot where he built his dwelling he thrust into the ground a willow twig which he had broken from a little tree in front of a settler's house on the way. The settler's wife was indignant and told her husband that the man who had just passed on horseback had ruined their tree, upon which the irate pioneer followed Mr. Miller, overtook him and berated him for breaking their tree; but he returned crest-fallen when he saw that it was a mere whip which had been appropriated. This twig has grown into a great tree, the two branching trunks of which now measure respectively sixteen and twelve and a half feet in circumference. It is an old and well-known landmark at the junction of the two roads.

putes and vexations of various kinds, until at length a final settlement was made and another deed obtained. He now supposed that all trouble about his farm was ended. But still later another stranger appeared and presented a claim to fifty acres on the northeast corner of the lot, which had been sold for non-payment of taxes. He claimed to be the purchaser and to hold a valid title to the land. This included the ground on which the Millers had made most of their improvements; consequently there was no other course available but to settle with the intruder, which they finally did by the payment of four dollars an acre. Thus, after living seven years in a log cabin, which would now be considered hardly good enough for a horse stable, and paying for their land twice and for a portion of it three times, they secured a valid title.

John Miller died June 11th, 1806, at the age of 75 years; his wife, Hannah, died October 25th, 1818, aged 69 years. Daniel Miller became a man of prominence. The military organization of the State was then thoroughly maintained and in March, 1803, he received the commission of lieutenant in a company of infantry from George Clinton, then governor of the State. This was followed by a commission as captain in 1806, and as lieutenant-colonel in 1808. In February, 1812, he received his commission as brigadier-general, and was called with his brigade to the Niagara frontier. It is said of him that he persistently studied military evolutions with kernels of corn on a board, until he became a competent tactician. He united with the Congregational Church in Homer in 1820 and from that time until his death was a prominent member and an office-holder in the society. He died in 1845. His wife was a sister of the Rev. John Keep, who was for twelve years pastor of that church. Mr. Miller left two sons, one of whom was Dr. Abram Miller. Gen. Miller is remembered as a man of contemplative cast of mind, of unswerving integrity and habitual dignity of manner. He was an ardent lover of nature.

Succeeding the Miller family the next settlers in the town were Jonathan Hubbard and Moses Hopkins, both of whom came in 1794. Mr. Hubbard selected lands amid the stately elms on the site of Cortland village, much of which east of Main street he owned. His first dwelling stood about on the site of the National Bank of Cortland, corner of Main and Court streets. Mr. Hopkins purchased a large tract of land west of the hill now known as "Monroe Heights," on lot 64.

It was fortunate for the future town that such men as Jonathan Hubbard and Moses Hopkins were its pioneers. They came, as did a great majority of the early settlers in this region, from New England — that cradle of strong, resolute, active men. These two, as well as many of their early successors, were men of strongly marked characters, possessed of sagacious foresight, clear minds and determined wills; they came into the wilderness to accomplish something worthy of themselves, with no thought of obstacles and no dread of consequences. Well may it be said, then, that the county was fortunate in having the first inroads toward civilization made by such men.

Mr. Hubbard was about twenty years old when he came into Cortland — young, vigorous and filled with enthusiasm. He foresaw (perhaps had already learned the fact from personal experience) that one of the first and most important necessities of pioneer families was a grist-mill. There was already one in the county, built in Homer a year or two previous, but there was ample room for more. Choosing the most eligible site, therefore, Mr. Hubbard made the building of a grist-mill his first occupation. It was located where now stands the mill of



A. LEROY COLE.

Thomas F. Brayton, and was the first one in the town; it was long known as Hubbard's mill, and still later as "the Red Mill." As soon as the structure was far enough advanced Mr. Hubbard and his young wife, a sister of David McClure, occupied it as a residence until his dwelling was built. In just what year the mill was finished and put in operation appears to be in doubt. It has been given as early as 1797 and as late as 1803. It was between those dates and undoubtedly not long after the one first given. In any event his daughter Abigail, afterward the wife of Daniel Hawks, a prominent Cortland attorney and county judge, was born while the family lived in the mill; her birth occurred in May, 1805. In the same year his wife died, and, in 1810, he married Polly Trowbridge; from this union was born in March, 1813, Jonathan Hubbard, jr., who was, until his death in 1883, one of the prominent and respected citizens of Cortland village. In 1806 the first Jonathan Hubbard joined with Loren Blodgett, son of Nathan Blodgett, whose settlement will be noted a little farther on, and erected a grist-mill at Blodgett's Mills, so named from Mr. Blodgett. This was the second mill built in the town, and its erection constituted about the first settlement at that point. Jonathan Hubbard died on Christmas Day, in the year 1814, at the comparatively early age of forty years; but he filled his life with work which made an enduring impression upon the town, as will hereafter appear.

Moses Hopkins was also a man of more than ordinary intelligence and force of character, energy and enterprise. He built one of the early taverns in the village of Cortland, on the corner near where the Taylor Hall block now stands; it was long a popular house, where public meetings of all kinds were held. The building was quite a commodious wooden structure and was subsequently occupied as a young ladies' seminary. Mr. Hopkins held the offices of deputy sheriff and sheriff of the county. His first dwelling stood about on the site occupied in later years by his son, Hiram Hopkins.

John Keep made a permanent settlement in 1795 on lot 56, where he built the original part of the county poor-house. He was from Massachusetts. Mr. Keep and his wife, Miss Frances Goodell, were baptized by Rev. Daniel Irish, in September, 1798, being the first administration of the rite in Cortland county. They were also among the sixteen who constituted the first Baptist church of Homer, in 1801, and gave liberally of their time, money and influence to the building up of that society and for the general good of the community. Judge Keep was made a justice of the peace as early as 1797, long before the organization of this county, and in 1810 he was first judge of the Court of Common Pleas, the first officer of that character in the county, which position he filled with honor until 1823. He was not bred to a profession, but his eminent integrity and sound judgment enabled him to fill his judicial office with satisfaction.

An incident in the life of Judge Keep, which was related by a former inmate of the alms house, is worthy of passing notice. Just before the family of Judge Keep finally removed from his home on the banks of the river he made his accustomed prayer in which he entreated that "the house he was about to leave might ever remain in the future as it had been in the past, an asylum for the poor, the unfortunate and the distressed."

Not many years later the house and farm were sold to the county for an alms house, making it, indeed, for all time, "an asylum for the poor and distressed."

From an old book containing a record of Judge Keep's official acts, we quote *verba-*

tim the following which will be read with interest: —

"County of Onondaga, ss.:

"To-wit: Be it remembered that on the 29th day of May, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred, Levi White was convicted before me, John Keep, one of the justices of the peace of said county of Onondaga, of doing servile work on Sabbath day, the eighteenth day of this present instant, May, at the town of Solon. Given under my hand and seal, the day and year above said.

"Fine, 75 cents; costs 37 cents 5 mills.

"JOHN KEEP, Justice of the Peace.

"Onondaga County, ss.:

"Viz.: Be it remembered that on the 26th day of December in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred, Elijah Hayden was convicted before me, John Keep, Esq., one of the justices of the peace in and for the said county, of swearing ten profane oaths, in the town of Homer, in the said county. Given under my hand and seal the day and the year above said.

"Fine paid, $3.75."

It would seem that the penalty for swearing one oath must have been thirty-seven and a half cents. This appears, when viewed from the stand-point of the present day, as a high penalty, and leads one to reflect upon the enormity of the income which might have been derived from this source if Judge Keep could have held his office until 1884 and had "let no guilty man escape."

From among the records of various marriage ceremonies performed by Judge Keep, we select a few of people who will be remembered by old residents as prominent in Cortland and Homer: —

"Homer, 26th June, 1800. This day married Asa White, jr., to Clarissa Keep, both of Homer." Mr. White was the father of Horace and Hamilton White, the successful bankers, later of Syracuse.

"March 14th, 1799. This day married Asahel Minor to Rhoda Keep, both of Homer." Mr. Minor was the first clerk of Cortland county, and held other positions of trust.

"April 4th, 1799. This day married Wm. Lucas to Sallie Knapp, both of Homer." Mr. Lucas was a prominent man and an office holder for about a quarter of a century.

"Married at Homer, March 25th, 1802, Prosper Cravath to Miriam Kinne." Of this family Mr. Ballard wrote in his *Reminiscences* as follows: — "Whether we view this married couple with their daughters, 'like olive plants around their table,' in their Cortland home, remarkable for the beauty of the landscape surrounding it, made up of plain, river and distant hill; or in their new dwelling-place on the plains of Wisconsin, rising above all is the memory of that parental dignity and tenderness, that child-like simplicity of manner and integrity of heart, all consecrated by a Christian faith daily strengthened on the altar of devotion. Such were their shining traits of character."

The meetings preliminary to building the First Baptist church of Homer (which stood at the junction of Adams street with the road to Homer) were held at his house; the first one in August, 1806, when John Keep, Asa Bennett and Benjamin Salisbury were chosen a committee to found a constitution.

Previous to the year 1800 a large tract of land, bordering the river eastward of Cortland village, was owned by Elkanah Watson, a Massachusetts man, from whom Port Watson received its name. It may be that others were interested with him in the speculation which was intended as the foundation of a thriving village at that point; but the sales of land are nearly all made in his name, or that of his attorney. The tract was surveyed by Harvey I. Stewart, probably as early as 1800, and laid out in streets and lots, and the latter placed in market. The principal street was Washington street,

running north and south on the line of the present street; but it is said to have been originally laid out much wider (eight or ten rods in width) and was intended for a magnificent avenue of a mile or more in length, directly through the center of the future village; it was extended northward across the west branch of the Tioughnioga, which was to have been bridged at that point, about midway between Hubbard's mill and the confluence of the two branches of the river; the bridge was never built, but streets were opened running from the road towards Truxton, north of the stone bridge, eastward to meet the main (Washington) street. Running eastward from Washington street were laid out and opened narrower avenues, reaching to the river, which were named from the numerals.

There are records of land sales in this vicinity, made by Elkanah Watson prior to 1800, and from that time to 1812, scores of transfers of lands in and about Port Watson are on record. A few examples of these sales will be interesting: —

In 1800 Watson sold to Charles Todd Hotchkiss, 100 acres on lot 41 (see map) for 80 pounds.

In 1805 Jonathan Hubbard bought lot 142, of the Port Watson survey, for $50. In the same year Alfred Allen bought of Watson lot 149, "on town plot of Port Watson," for $45.

In the next year Moses Hopkins bought of Watson lot 126, "on town plott of Port Watson," for $26.06.

In 1811, Watson sold to "Luman Rice, of the village of Port Watson, all that village lot lying in the village of Port Watson, known as lots 60 and 61, bounded by Washington street, containing each one-half acre," for $95; also the north half of lot 29 on "East Homer river," bounded "west by road; east by lot 30, and south by a line through the middle of lot 29."

In 1812 Watson sold to Thomas Tillotson for $2,000 one-fourth of lot 66, with saw-mill, hotel and store-houses. Tillotson is recorded as from Rhinebeck. This sale indicates that there was a saw-mill at or near the confluence of the river branches earlier than 1812, and a hotel near by; but we have been unable to learn anything more definite of them.

Jacob, well known as "Captain," Badgley, purchased "lot 120 of the town platt of Port Watson," in 1812, for $50. Capt. Badgley was an uncle of Alonzo Blodgett.

In October, 1810, Thomas and Andrew Stockholm bought of Watson land on the "east bank of East river, due east of the south line of 6th street, in the village of Port Watson, and at the northwest corner of lot 15; thence east four chains; thence south ten chains, to north line of lot 21; thence east twenty-seven chains to the east bank of the river; then up the river to the place of beginning — about five acres," for $200.

Watson also sold to Nathan Blodgett, grandfather of Alonzo Blodgett, a part of lot 66, lying "immediately west of Port Watson, on the south side of West Homer river—twenty acres, for $240." William Lowe joined in this sale, which was made in December, 1805.

These transfers are given merely as examples of many others, indicating the activity in the land traffic at that point; it is much to be regretted that the map of Port Watson village is not now available; while we have found traces of such a map, our utmost efforts have failed to secure it.

Sales of lots at Port Watson continued to be pushed with vigor; the point was clearly the head of navigation on the river, and the site was in every way so favorable for the location of a village that it was not until after the first decade of the century that the then hamlet of Cortland began to outstrip Port Watson in growth and prestige.

During the year 1795 a few more settlers came into the town. Among these was Dr. Lewis S. Owen, who came from Albany and located on lot 66, where he subsequently erected the first frame house in the county. It stood a little east of where Russell Hubbard lived in later years. Dr. Owen removed to Homer village after three years. In the same year Thomas Wilcox, from Whitestown, settled on lot 64, and Reuben Doud, originally from New Haven, James Scott, John Morse and Levi Lee all located on lot 75.

Considerable accession was made to the population of the town during the succeeding five years and prior to the beginning of the century. In 1796–97 Samuel Crittenden and Eber Stone came from Connecticut and located on lot 66. They bought one hundred and sixty acres, the tract belonging to them being divided by a line nearly parallel with the present Main street. Mr. Crittenden afterward built a house a little east of the site of A. Mahan's store. He made the journey from Connecticut with an ox team, being twenty-five days on the road. Mr. Crittenden removed to Tompkins county prior to 1858, where he held several judicial offices and represented the county in the Legislature three successive years.

Aaron Knapp settled on lot 55 during the period under consideration, and Enoch Hotchkiss on lot 76. In the year 1798 Samuel Ingalls and his son, Samuel, jr., migrated from Columbia county, N. Y., and located on lot 75, the former becoming the owner of much of the land on which the southwestern portion of the village is situated. He built and kept the first tavern in the town.

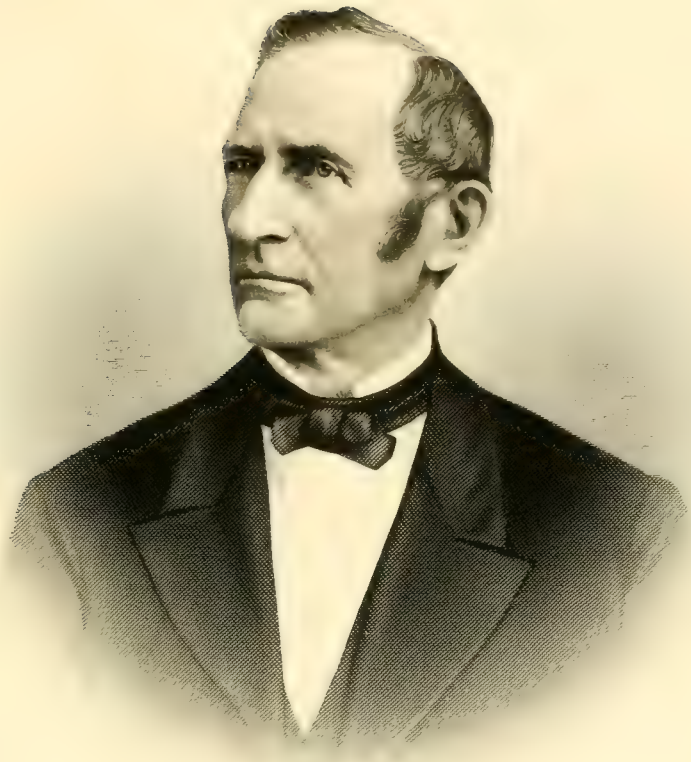
During the first decade of the century, although the advancement of settlement was not remarkably rapid, many men and families located within the boundaries of the town who were destined to wield an influence in the community and leave the permanent impress of their toil and energy upon the new county. Many of these have already been mentioned in the history of the town of Homer, and while we cannot trace the precise dates of arrival and localities of settlement of all those worthy pioneers, something may be said of the more prominent of them; others will be found in subsequent pages devoted to the village history of the town.

David Merrick came from Massachusetts in the year 1800 and located on lot 44. He was accompanied by his son Danforth, afterward a prominent citizen. In 1810 they settled in Cortland village on lot 65,[1] where he built what was then the largest hotel in the place, just west of the Cortland House site, which he kept as a tavern more than twenty years.

Obadiah Boies and Joshua Bassett arrived in town about cotemporary with Mr. Merrick. Mr. Boies built his dwelling about where the Union Hall block now stands, and Mr. Bassett near the site of the First National Bank. Mr. Boies became a prominent citizen and held the office of county treasurer for many years. Mr. Bassett was a jeweler, the first in the village.

Waterman and Levi Phillips were from Connecticut, and the former located on lot 69, near where Trout creek joins the Tioughnioga, where he purchased one hundred acres. He afterward removed to Ho-

[1] Mr. Merrick came to Whitestown in the year 1797, to purchase a tavern stand and [illegible] acres of land, then valued at $300. His means being limited, he concluded not to purchase and returned home. The next year he again visited Whitestown for the express purpose of closing a bargain, but the property was then valued at $10,000, and consequently he did not secure it, and came on to Homer. A few years later, having been ejected from his premises three times, and being threatened with the same treatment a fourth time, he concluded to leave and settle at Little York; but in 1810 he returned to Cortland village.



mer village. Jefferson, Abel K., and George Phillips were his sons.

At this time (1800) there was no road between Homer village and the little settlement at Cortland; or, at least, none other than a mere cutting through the woods. One of the pioneers of Cortland who drew saw-logs to the Homer mill in the winter of 1800–01, said that two trips a day through the mud and slush, "snaking" a log one way, was all he could accomplish. A road had been cut out to Virgil Corners where it intersected the State road; another had been cut through to Locke (now Groton); a third to McGrawville; a fourth to Truxton and the one to Homer, above mentioned.

In the year 1800 Wilmot Sperry located in the town, on lot 73; he was from Woodbridge, Conn. Two years later William Mallory came in from Columbia county and permanently located. He soon afterward built a house where the Keator block now stands, corner of Main and Port Watson streets. He was the second sheriff of the county, appointed in 1809, and was a man of unusual character and acquirements. In 1814 he was elected to the Assembly and as county clerk in 1815. In 1819 he was elected to the State Senate, and was appointed county judge in 1823. He died in 1837.

John A. Freer came into town at this time from Duchess county, and located on lot 74. He became a prominent citizen of the village, as did also his sons, Anthony and S. D. Freer, the latter of whom still lives there.

In 1803 Samuel McGraw made the long journey from New Haven and located on lot 87, where he purchased 100 acres. In 1809 he removed to the site of McGrawville, (which was named from him) where he purchased 200 acres; at that time there were but three families in the vicinity of the village of McGrawville. Mr. McGraw was a man of prominence and did much toward building up the place which bears his name. He was the father of twelve children, eight of whom were sons. He died in 1849. One of his sons, Harry McGraw, became a prominent citizen of Cortland, held several offices, and was the father of Hon. P. H. McGraw, now of McGrawville.

James T. Hotchkiss came into town in 1803, from Woodbridge, locating on lot 54, northwest of the village. He was conspicuous in the War of 1812 and fell at the battle of Queenstown, in 1813, while serving as one of Gen. Dearborn's life-guards. He left eight children who became well known and respected people.

The first church organization in the county (1801) has already been alluded to in the history of the town of Homer. It was the result of joint efforts on the part of the good people in Homer (village), Cortland, Port Watson and East River, and led to the building, in 1811, of a church which stood about "one-half mile north of the old courthouse," as its location has been defined. Its site was in reality on the northwest corner at the junction of North Main street with Adams street and the Homer road.

The first Methodist meetings in this town were held at the house of Jonathan Hubbard in 1804, and they were continued at private houses, school-houses, etc., until the time arrived when a society was organized and a church built in 1821, as detailed in subsequent pages. Elder Bachellor was a Methodist minister who preached on a circuit embracing Cortland village, as early as 1805.

Among the earliest settlers in the eastern part of the town were Russell Dodd, Rufus Persons, Enon Phelps and others. Enon Phelps (father of E. W. Phelps, who came to this locality in 1817) remained where he settled in this town but one year (1795–96), and then removed to Homer. Mr. Persons was a native of Connecticut, was married

January 1st, 1807, and moved upon the farm now occupied by Lorenzo Persons, where he built a saw-mill.

Isaac Alger, a native of Vermont, came to New York State in 1800. He was the father of Joseph C. Alger, of McGrawville, who came there from Schoharie county in 1831. His first wife was a daughter of Job Card, one of the early settlers on lot 57. His present wife was Mary B. Cowles, daughter of Judah Cowles, also an early settler, who came from Chathanf, N. Y., and located on land now owned by Charles O. Alger, in 1810.

Nathan Blodgett was one of the more prominent of the early settlers locating here in 1804. He was from Massachusetts and his purchase of lands from Elkanah Watson has already been noted. He died in 1845, leaving five children — Loren (before mentioned as building the first mill at Blodgett's Mills), Lewis, Benjamin Franklin, Lydia and Elizabeth. The son, Benjamin F., succeeded to the ownership of the farm. He was a useful and respected member of the community and made the farm one of the best in this section. His life exhibited the Christian virtues in an enviable degree. He left four children; a daughter married Dr. T. C. Pomeroy, now of Syracuse, and another the Rev. O. H. Seymour. His son, Alonzo Blodgett, now owns and occupies the homestead near Brayton's mills, where he has built a handsome residence.

Jacob Sanders settled on lot 56 in 1803; he was from Swansea, Mass. He had a family of ten children, who became well known and respected people.

John Calvert came from Washington county to Virgil in 1800 and about 1812 removed to lot 82, between Cortland and McLean, where Leroy Gillett now lives.

Nathan and James Knapp were early settlers on lot 84, south of Cortland village, and Gilbert Budd and Jeremiah Chase on lot 74. John Stillman located on lot 65, now within the village limits, at a very early day. Judge Keep's old record book contains Mr. Stillman's marriage to Mary Hubbard, sister of the pioneer, Jonathan Hubbard, under date of January 22d, 1801. Elisha Crosby and Lemuel Ingalls were early settlers also on lot 65. John McNish was also an early farmer in the vicinity of South Cortland.

Gideon Curtis, a native of Massachusetts, came here in 1807 and located near the Port Watson bridge, where he owned a tannery for a time. He afterwards removed to Little York. He was a member of the Legislature in 1822.

In 1808 John Ingalls located on lot 74 and Lemuel and Jacob Cady, who came from Massachusetts, on lot 73, all southwest of the village towards South Cortland. Edmund Mallory, from Duchess county, settled on lot 74, also, and John Wicks on 73.

Oliver Wiswell, the first lawyer in the town and the first postmaster (1814), probably came before 1810. Other early attorneys were Henry Stephens and Samuel N. Perkins, the former of whom became very prominent; was sent to the Legislature; was county judge and later president of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad.

These pioneers of the town who came in before the year 1810, though their numbers were comparatively small, were generally men of strong characters and wills, men whose lives and works left an indelible impression upon the town.

The second decade of the century witnessed long strides in the advancement and growth of the town, and the establishment of its early institutions. The erection of the court-house pursuant to the act of April, 1810, and the rivalry it occasioned in the three villages of Homer, Port Watson and Cortland, have been detailed in a previous chapter. The little hamlet of Cortland be-

gan to assume the character of a village, and mills, asheries, distilleries and tanneries were multiplying in different parts of the town. William and Roswell Randall came to Cortland village in 1812 and soon began the important business enterprises which placed them at the head in this respect, a position which they occupied for many years. They were originally from Stonington but came to Cortland from Brookfield, Conn. Saw-mills had been erected at South Cortland, Blodgett's Mills, one near Horace Dibble's carding-mill and one at Port Watson. The carding-mill operated for so many years by Mr. Dibble was built as early as 1815, by David McClure and in 1818[1] Moses Hopkins advertised in the *Republican* that he had "two new carding-machines ready for operation in Mr. Higday's shops, a little east of the Red mills (formerly Hubbard's mill)."

[1] Goodwin's *Pioneer History* makes mention of a William Sherman, who came to Homer in the summer of 1815, and 'soon after he erected a machine shop for the manufacture of nails — the first of the kind in the State of New York — the machinery being so arranged as to feed, cut, head and stamp without assistance. On the head of each nail was stamped the letter S. Four-penny nails were then worth twenty-five cents per pound.' I am under the impression, however, that Sherman began manufacturing nails in this building, which was erected by a man named McClure about 1816, and had a saw-mill in the rear, run by the same water privilege, and that he subsequently removed the machinery to Homer, where he continued to manufacture nails for a number of years. Mr. Dibble states that when he passed through Cortland in 1821, nails were then being made here by Sherman's machine, and I have now in my possession several nails with the letters W and S stamped on their heads, which were with some difficulty drawn out of the clapboards covering the rear of the old building, by me, a few moments before these lines were written, and which there is every reason for believing were among the first nails manufactured by that machine."

This paragraph is printed in a pamphlet recently issued in Cortland as a historical advertising medium; but there is probably no ground for presuming that William Sherman ever made nails in Cortland. The nails bearing his initials on the heads were doubtless made by him in Homer and sold to the builder of the carding-mill. The fact of their being found in that old structure is no argument in favor of the supposition that they were made there.

The Randalls had at least two asheries within the present limits of the village, and distilleries dotted the landscape in every direction. Whisky, as we are told by an old resident, was so plenty that one could go and buy a gallon for twenty-five cents "and have a jug thrown in to carry it home in."

The first school was established, the building standing on the site of the Messenger House, and the old Baptist Church society was in a flourishing condition.

In the year 1815 further school facilities being demanded, steps were taken which led to the building of the old school-house which preceded the academy. Moses Hopkins, Samuel S. Baldwin and Solomon Hubbard were the trustees of the districts. Notice was given by them that proposals would be received for building a school-house 26 by 56 feet in dimensions, and two stories high. The structure was erected in 1816, and from that time onward was occupied for school purposes below, while the upper story was often used for religious meetings. In the year 1841 it was enlarged and became the well known and successful academy. It stood between the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, on Church street. In 1868 it was removed and the lot given to the Normal School grounds.

William Wood, a native of Hinsdale, Vermont, migrated to Herkimer, N. Y., and in 1814 came into the town of Homer, locating at first on the road leading from the East river valley to the farm of Enon Phelps, on lot 48. Here he resided two years, when he removed southward to lot 58 in the town of Cortlandville, and again removed in 1819 to lot 39 in Homer, adjoining the farm of Capt. Crandall; but after planting an orchard and making other valuable improvements on the place, he was forced to leave it in 1833, for want of a valid title. He removed into the valley, and subsequently to the hill again, on the

northwest side of the river, where he died in 1850, as stated in the preceding history of Homer. His farm on lot 58 passed into the hands of Asa Loring, who came to the town from Petersham, Mass., in 1818 and bought Mr. Wood's interest in the farm. Mr. Loring removed to lot 48 in Homer, but again changed his location to the old Deacon Miller farm at the junction of the Homer and Cortland roads leading to Truxton. Mr. Loring early manifested a deep interest in the science of surveying and eagerly availed himself of whatever knowledge he could gain on the subject; he began its practice at the age of nineteen and soon gained a reputation for industry and accuracy that was most enviable. He followed the business until he was more than eighty years old, retaining his sight to such a degree that he never had to use glasses. Mr. Loring held various offices — commissioner of schools, commissioner of highways, commissioner of deeds, etc., and in 1825 was elected captain of a company of infantry, in the old 58th regiment, then under command of Roswell Randall. Following is a transcription of Captain Loring's muster roll of 1826 now in possession of his son, T. Mason Loring, which will show some of the men who then gave their aid to the military organization of the State: —

Captain — Asa Loring.

Lieutenant — Polydore B. Corwin.

Ensign — John McGraw.

Sergeants — Austin Graves, Alonzo Tisdale, Elisha H. Colvin, James S. Van Valkenberg.

Corporals — Wm. Eldredge, Samuel Thompson, James Stewart, Evander Hise.

Musicians — Speilman Graves, Amos Sparks, Lyman Palmer, Lester Graves, Walter G. Dye, Ari T. Boynton, Orin Hise.

Privates — Stilman Eaton, Tilly Coburn, Nehemiah Lewis, Reuben G. Doud, Amos Pritchard, Morris Bishop, Smith P. Brockway, Hiram Boon, Horatio Brockway, Joseph Brockway, Aaron Coburn, Lyman Graves, Evander Hise, Levi Davis, Henry Canehan, Ezekiel Hotchkiss, Robert Dalglish, Jos. Whitney, Aaron S. Reynolds, Hiram Baker, Isaac Allen, Lothrop Farnam, Alvirus Stedman, Oliver Bugby, Geo. Stoning, James Stewart, Wm. Jacobs, Nelson Spencer, Archibald Campbell, Gilmore Kinney, Clark Pendleton, Whitman Rowe, Ezra Mills, Chas. Higgins, Philip Knox, Zimri Russell, Harry Coburn, Zalmon P. Barnum, Daniel Danielson, David Fisk, Isaac Fisk, J. E. Buchanan, Danford Hise, Joseph King, Loren Keep, Parker Butterfield, Fred K. Austin, Edwin Cook, Benjamin Johnson, Jacob Ogden, Truman Doud, Nelson Clark, Samuel King, Samuel B. Houd, Philander Merrill.

These were the men, many of whom were from this town, who helped to increase the glory of the old "general training days."

On the 30th day of June, 1815, occurred an event in Cortland, which is always one of importance in every new community. That day witnessed the issue of the first newspaper in the town, and the second one in the county. It was published, during the first few months of its existence, by James Percival, and was a very creditable journal for the period; but its columns are of very little account in furnishing historical matter, as was common with early newspapers. Local news was almost entirely ignored by the editor, while column after column was devoted to events happening in foreign countries. Further reference to this newspaper will be found in the chapter devoted to the press of the county, in the general history of the county.

In the *Republican* of September 13th, 1817, appeared a notice of which the following is a transcription: —

"DOCTOR GOODYEAR,

"From New Haven, Conn., has opened an

office in this village, where he is ready to attend to the duties of his profession; and respectfully solicits the patronage of the public, so far as they shall (after an acquaintance) find him deserving."

This was the beginning, very modestly announced, of a professional career extending over a period of about sixty years, by one of the most eminent and deserving physicians of the county or State. The name of Miles Goodyear became a cherished household word in numberless homes, where his gentle and successful ministrations to the distressed will never be forgotten.[1] A daughter of Dr. Goodyear is now the wife of Dr. Frederick Hyde, of Cortland village; she is a lady of rare intelligence and acquirements, beloved by all who know her.

Jethro Bonney was an early settler at Port Watson, coming here from Essex county in 1816. Mead Merrill was the owner of a saw-mill at Port Watson at that time and Mr. Bonney leased the mill. He operated it but a few years, however, when he removed with his family to Pompey. After a residence of many years in different localities, he returned to Cortland and died in the village. Sally Bonney, who now lives on Pendleton street, was his daughter.

The early advancement of the agricultural interests of the county was manifested by the organization of an agricultural society in the year 1818. The first fair was held in the fall of that year. This event was looked upon by the inhabitants of the village, as well as those of the country surrounding, as of prime importance and likely to result in permanent benefit to the community. Elaborate preparations were accordingly made for the fair, which were successfully carried out. The date was the 3d day of November, and in the glowing account given of the event in the village paper we find that "at the rising of the sun there were three discharges of cannon, reminding us that, under Providence, with one hand we defend our soil and liberties, and with the other reap the harvests." The attendance was evidently quite large and the exhibition of stock, etc., creditable for that period. After the committees had prepared their reports a procession was formed which marched to the court-house, accompanied by a band of music. There the proceedings were opened by "an able and pertinent prayer," by the Rev. Thomas Purinton, of Truxton. President Levi Bowen, of Homer, addressed the audience and vice-president John Miller opened the reports of the committees and delivered the certificates to the successful exhibitors. The exercises closed with a prayer by "the Rev. Elijah Bachellor, of Homer, commending the society and spectators to the protection of heaven." A sumptuous dinner was then served at David Merrick's tavern. The premiums offered amounted to only about $100; but in that day this seemed to be sufficient, when coupled with the deep interest of the farmers of the county to produce a good exhibition of farm products.

About the year 1820 Nelson Spencer came to Cortlandville, from Hartford, Conn., and purchased a tract of land in Port Watson which covered the spot where the two branches of the river unite. There he erected a paper-mill, several tenant houses, a store building, and founded a large business in the manufacture of paper, book-binding and book-selling. It soon became one of the most important manufacturing industries in the county.

In the spring of 1832, Spencer having failed, the property passed into possession of Thomas Sinclair and John J. Speed, both of Ithaca. Mr. Sinclair removed his family to Cortland and undertook the work of refitting the mill, which had become a good deal run down; nothing but coarse paper had yet been made there, with machinery

[1] More extended notice of Dr. Goodyear will be found in the history of the Cortland County Medical Society.

of the most primitive kind. The paper was made by a hand process, dipping the pulp from a vat in a seive-like frame and forming the sheet by gently shaking the frame, a tedious process and requiring skillful manipulation. Speed & Sinclair, as the new firm was called, put new machinery in the mill and made the manufacture of fine papers a specialty; their product soon stood foremost in the local market. Mr. Sinclair died in the spring of 1841, and the mill was for a time leased to the employees.[1]

The old paper-mill subsequently passed into the hands of Wm. H. Smith and John Duff, and perhaps others, and was finally bought by Daniel Bradford, of Cortland, who conducted it chiefly for the manufacture of coarse paper. Mr. Bradford took it in about the year 1847, and continued the business until 1864, when the buildings were purchased by Sears, Freer & Cottrell (Francis Sears, S. D. Freer and John B. Cottrell) and machinery introduced for the manufacture of linseed oil. This partnership was dissolved in 1866 and Mr. Freer conducted the works until 1871, when the business was abandoned. In July, 1881, the property was bought by the Cooper Brothers, who now conduct a very successful foundry and machine shop.

With the completion and opening of the Erie canal in 1825, furnishing cheap and extensive transportation facilities between Syracuse and eastern markets and ports, the people of Cortland county and vicinity were imbued with an earnest desire for railroad connection with the great waterway at Syracuse, thirty miles distant; this feeling found expression in an application to the Legislature of 1826 for a railroad charter, the road to run from Binghamton to Syracuse, directly through Cortland county. The charter was granted (the first in the State) but the road was never built under its authority. It was thirty years later before Cortland was favored with railway connections to distant points.

In writing of the settlement and establishment of business in Cortlandville prior to the year 1829, we have referred to that territory only as a portion of the old "ten miles square" of the town of Homer. Cortlandville, as a town, had no existence until in April, 1829, when it was set off from Homer, by a line dividing it in halves from east to west along the lines of the two middle tiers of lots. The boundaries of the town thus established remained unchanged until the year 1845, when lot No. 10 in Virgil was added to this town; and in the next year all that portion of lot No. 9 in Virgil lying east of the Tioughnioga river was added to it.

It has been our purpose thus far in the history of this important town to give the dates of arrival of most of the prominent pioneers, where they located, etc., and the establishment of some early industries; but it is manifestly impossible to follow individual arrivals farther, or to note all the important events in their lives, except as such will necessarily appear in the village histories in subsequent pages.

[1] John J. Speed possessed many noble traits of character, accompanied with some peculiarities. In the dispatch of business he was rarely excelled. He was a Virginian by birth and a prominent member of the Methodist denomination. All enterprises of moral reform found in him an enthusiastic friend. He was an exemplary member of the church, bold and outspoken in all that related to its welfare and the order of its religious exercises. The old Methodist chapel had a basement room. It happened on a warm summer Sabbath, during the forenoon exercises, that several mastiffs which had accompanied their masters' teams to the church, came trotting through the open doors and along the aisles, apparently in search of their owners, and in some instances mounting the pew doors with their fore feet. This was too much for Father Speed. He abhorred dogs. At the close of the sermon he arose in his place (with a red silk handkerchief around his head to protect its nakedness from the flies) and announced the proposal that in the afternoon the people assemble in the basement, and the dogs in the audience-room. No dogs attended that church thereafter. — Hon. Horatio Ballard's *Reminis-*

TOWN ORGANIZATION.

The first town meeting for the town of Cortlandville was held at the old Eagle Tavern on the 2d day of March, 1830. Present, Henry Stephens and Samuel M. Perkins, as stated in the records. Henry Webb was chosen clerk *pro tem.* Reports from the school commissioners, highway commissioners and poormasters were read and accepted, and the next meeting ordered held at the court-house, on the 2d Tuesday of March, 1831. The following town officers were elected: —

Commissioners of highways — Parker Butterfield, Eleazer May, Wm. R. Bennett.

Assessors — Harry McGraw, Daniel Mallory, Dan Hibbard.

School commissioners — Rufus Boies, Gilbert Edgcomb, jr., Asa Loring.

School inspectors — Marvin Huntington, Joseph C. Morse, Chas. Chamberlain.

Commissioners of the gospel and school lot — Rufus Boies and Canfield Marsh.

Poormasters — Daniel Miller, Tercius Eels.

Constables — Eleazer Carpenter, H. S. Brockway, Hezekiah M. Sanders, Gilmore Kinney.

Collector — Micah Hotchkiss.

Sealer of weights and measures — Edward Allen.

Justices of the peace — Jacob Badgley, Hiram McGraw, Jonathan L. Woods.

John Miller had been made the first supervisor and Homer Gillett, town clerk; they were re-elected in 1831. At the first town meeting $100 was appropriated for the support of the poor, and a like sum for bridges. The town was divided into fifty-three road districts, and several new roads were laid out, notable among which were what is now Mill street, Railroad street and a portion of Port Watson street. At that time a road known as "the Baptist road" ran from Port Watson, starting on the Main street a little northward from the bridge, diagonally across the "square," coming out near the junction of Adams street with the road to Homer, where the old Baptist church was situated. Much of the flat land just east from the village and in the vicinity of the present location of the D., L. & W. depot was then low and swampy; so much so that the "Baptist road" had to be "corduroyed" to render it passable; and the antiquarian in a small way can find there the logs of the old roadway in some places at the present day. Another road then ran over "court-house hill" from about where Virgil street joins Tompkins street, coming out on the north end in the vicinity of Adams street. Both of these roads were subsequently closed; on account, it is said, of the fact that too many people from the southern portions of the county who came to the business center to trade, took one or the other of these roads which naturally carried them past Cortland and into Homer.

At the town meeting of 1831, which, it will be remembered, was ordered held at the court-house, it was ordered that the next meeting be held again at the Eagle Tavern. It might prove interesting and may be amusing to know the real reason for this change; but it is one of those abstruse matters that will, probably, never be solved.

More roads were opened in 1832, among which was the one running westward from the "back road" between Homer and Corland villages, and that from South Cortland to Virgil. Extensive changes were also made in the road districts of the town. Indeed, the principal business of the town officers in those days fell upon the highway commissioners. In 1834 Greenbush street was extended to the "Baptist road."

It was down to the date last mentioned and for fifteen or twenty years previous, that the Tioughnioga river presented an animated scene about three times a year.

When the fall rains occurred and when the snow melted away in the spring, as well as often in the month of June, the stream would be filled to overflow and became a wild rushing torrent. Then there was bustle and excitement at the different business points along its banks, and especially at Port Watson, which was called the head of navigation. At that place a boat-yard did a lively business for many years, and arks and scows in large numbers were built for the transportation of produce, potash, whisky, pottery-ware, maple sugar and such other commodities as could be spared and turned into money in the markets of Pennsylvania along the Susquehanna. When the waters of the river began to rise, these craft, some of which are said to have been ninety feet long, were moored at the Port Watson dock and a strong complement of temporary 'longshoremen engaged to load them as rapidly as possible. The famous pilots, among whom were Marsena Morgan, Captain Badgely, Major Shapley, Luman Rice, Wakefield, Chapman and others, assumed unusual importance, especially in the eyes of the younger generation, to whom a water trip to Baltimore was then looked upon with more awe than a voyage to England can now inspire. When the boats were loaded, the pilots and the crews would go on board, the lines were cast off and away down the swift current they went, singly or lashed together by twos or threes, amid the plaudits of their owners and others on the dock.

It was at such times that the local newspapers complacently enlivened their columns with such announcements as the following, under date of April 6th, 1818: —

PORT WATSON — HIGH WATER.

CLEARED.

Exporter — G. Rice, master, for Harrisburg; laden with cheese and gypsum.

Crazy Jane — L. Rice; laden with gypsum, for Harrisburg.

Dutch Trader — Shapley, master; gypsum.

Navigator — Parsons, for Columbia; gypsum.

Brother Jonathan — Taylor, " "

Gold Hunter — Sherwood, " "

Indian Chief — Billings, " "

Resolution — May; for Marietta, gypsum.

Perseverance — Wakefield, " "

Enterprise — Wakefield, for Middletown; gypsum.

Lazy Tom — Wakefield, for Northumberland; gypsum.

Sour Crout — Wakefield, for Northumberland; gypsum.

Yankee Rogue — Wakefield, Sunbury; gypsum.

A few days later, and doubtless on the trip above referred to, Luman Rice met with a terrible accident, while endeavoring to land at Northumberland. He had coiled a rope around his left arm, with one end of it fast to the boat. He threw the other end around a tree that leaned over the river, when the momentum of the boat instantly tightened the coil and severed his arm, as if with a knife. He fell into the stream, and actually swam ten rods with his bleeding limb, until he was rescued. His wounded member had to be amputated. In the following year (1819) the following craft cleared from Port Watson in November: —

Boat Swiftsure — Cross, master; for Columbia, with thirty-eight barrels of salt.

Independence — Chapman, master, for Columbia, with thirty-six barrels of salt.

Ranger — Wakefield; thirty-six barrels of salt, for the same port.

Ark, Neptune — May, master, for Middletown, with thirty barrels salt.

With the construction of numerous dams, necessitating the building of shallow scows only for river transportation, and greatly increasing the risk and danger, with the gradual diminution of the volume of water in the river, these methods of transportation had to be abandoned; but old settlers used to relate, in the most vivid style, incidents

connected with river navigation — the "shooting" of dams, running of rapids, grounding in sharp bends, and their night amusements when tied up at different points — that would vie with the wildest tales of a Mississippi river pilot. There was very little boating down the Tioughnioga after the year 1840.

In the summer of 1832 considerable apprehension was felt throughout the country on account of a threatened invasion of Asiatic cholera. The appearance of the dread disease in New York city was announced over the land, and active measures were adopted in all sections to avert its terrors. J. Badgley, H. Stephens, H. McGraw, J. L. Woods, justices of the peace, and Tercius Eels, overseer of the poor, met on the 3d day of July of that year, under the law of June 22d, "for the preservation of the public health," to determine if it was expedient to constitute a board of health and appoint a health officer for the town of Cortlandville.[1]

Messrs. Harry McGraw, Joshua Ballard, Mead Merrill, Danforth Merrick, Wm. Bartlit, Wm. H. Shankland and Wm. Randall were made a board of health, with Dr. Miles Goodyear as health officer. This board adopted ordinances providing in substance that no stage or other public conveyance should carry through the town any person sick with cholera or who had been exposed to it, unless such person bore a certificate that no danger need be apprehended in the case, under a penalty of $100. Citizens were required to cleanse their premises, under penalty of $25. The health officer was required to report all cases of infectious diseases to the board at 9 o'clock each morning and citizens were also requested to report all infectious cases.

The disease swept over the country, but owing to these precautions on the part of the people of Cortland county, and particularly of this town, and the interior location of the county away from the great lines of through travel, the epidemic was but little felt here.

An institution called the "Cortlandville Literary Association" was organized November 29th, 1852. Its officers were Frederick Hyde, president; G. K. Stiles, vice-president; H. G. Crouch, secretary; Stephen Brewer, treasurer. A committee of five was appointed to arrange for a course of lectures. Lewis Kingsley, Rev. H. R. Dunham, E. F. Gould, H. G. Crouch and James L. Burst were the executive committee. It may be assumed that with such men as those named at the head of this association, it accomplished its aim, and furnished the people with good lectures.

Although the inhabitants of the town of Cortlandville had their hopes of railroad communication with distant markets raised to a high pitch on several occasions, beginning with the grant of a charter for a road from Syracuse to Binghamton in 1826, their hopes failed of realization until 1854–55, when the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad was opened for business. The first steps towards the inauguration of this enterprise were taken in 1848–49, and the work of construction was begun in 1852. The road was built entirely by subscription, and this town was not behind any other in the county in supporting the enterprise; the farming community, as well as the citizens of the villages, opened their purses and liberally contributed towards the desired object. The road was finished and formally

[1] In the Cortland *Advocate* of this date appeared the following card: —

"CONTEMPTIBLE SPECULATION. — *To the editor of the Advocate:* I understand that vultures are abroad purchasing 'cholera medicines,' such as camphor, etc., intending to reap a rich harvest from the miseries of the human family. May heaven avert the doom, but if the cholera *should* appear among us, it is hoped the speculators will *need* the medicines they have acquired by such dishonorable means. SCOTT."

opened on the 18th and 19th of October, 1854, the details of which event have been given in the general history. It was subsequently sold on a mortgage, to the loss of individual stockholders; but even with that disaster charged against it, the benefits to the town at large from the road can scarcely be overestimated.

The advent of the locomotive displaced the former important stage business through the valley, of which Cortland was a prominent station; changed the prospects of villages and gave to this town and especially to the village of Cortland an impetus the force of which is still felt, and which enabled it to far outstrip the other towns of the county. Previous to 1835 Homer was the leading village, but the population was about equal in the two towns at that date. At the time of the completion of the railroad, Cortlandville had nearly six hundred more inhabitants than Homer, while the county seat was fairly started on its career of prosperity and growth which has continued to the present time.

In the year 1852 the stone bridge at what was then known as Mudge's mills, was built, and five years later (in 1857) the town appropriated $400 to rebuild the bridge at Port Watson. Henry Stephens, P. H. McGraw and J. P. Ingraham were made a committee to decide on what kind of a bridge should be constructed. In 1873 the iron bridge at Blodgett's Mills was constructed, at a cost of over $5,000.

For a few years preceding and succeeding 1870 the people of this town, as well as of some other parts of the county, became deeply imbued with a desire for more railroads, and they were, in consequence, prominently instrumental in the construction of the (formerly) Ithaca and Cortland road; the bringing in this direction of the branch of the Midland road, and the inauguration of the enterprise of building the Utica, Chenango and Cortland railroad, which has not yet been finished. In aid of these roads the town voted to bond itself to the amount of $100,000 for the Ithaca and Cortland road, and $150,000 for the Utica, Chenango and Cortland road. While these heavy investments have at times imposed a grievous burden upon the tax-payers, it is generally conceded that the additional railroad connections thus secured are well worth the price. To them may be attributed much of the late phenomenal growth of Cortland village. Something of an effort has been made within the past two or three years to inaugurate a contest against the payment of the railroad bonds of the town; but it is a pleasure to write that at the regular meeting in January, 1884, it was definitely settled that the bonds should be paid in full.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of the town, from its organization to the present time, the name of the supervisor being given first in each instance: —

1830–31, John Miller, Homer Gillett. 1832, Washington G. Parker, Homer Gillett. 1833–34, Joshua Ballard, Homer Gillett. 1835, Harry McGraw, Homer Gillett. 1836, Joshua Ballard, Homer Gillett. 1837, Harry McGraw, Homer Gillett. 1838, Dan Hibbard, Tercius Eels. 1839–40, H. McGraw, Tercius Eels. 1841, Oren Stimpson, James C. Pomeroy. 1842, Abiram L. Bassett, R. A. Reed. 1843–44, Abiram L. Bassett, J. C. Pomeroy. 1845, Marcus McGraw, Adin Webb. 1846–47, Oren Stimpson, Adin Webb. 1848, Hiram McGraw, Adin Webb. 1849, Hiram Hopkins, Adin Webb. 1850, Hiram McGraw, Adin Webb. 1851, Amos Rice, Adin Webb. 1852, Hamilton Putnam, Adin Webb. 1853, Abram Mudge, Adin Webb. 1854–55, Harvey S. Crandall, Adin Webb. 1856–57, Abram Mudge, Adin Webb. 1858, Deloss McGraw, Adin

Webb. 1859, S. E. Welch, Adin Webb. 1860, C. L. Kinney, Adin Webb. 1861, Francis H. Hibbard, Adin Webb. 1862–63, S. E. Welch, Adin Webb. 1864–65, Deloss McGraw, H. A. Randall. 1866, S. E. Welch, H. A. Randall. 1867, Norman Chamberlain, H. A. Randall. 1868, S. E. Welch, A. N. Rounsville. 1869, S. E. Welch, W. J. Mantanye. 1870, S. E. Welch, Lewis Bouton. 1871, Deloss McGraw, Geo. L. Waters. 1872, S. E. Welch, Geo. L. Waters. 1873–74, Wm. D. Frederick, Geo. S. Sands. 1875, Deloss McGraw, L. P. Hollenbeck. 1877, T. Mason Loring, L. P. Hollenbeck. 1878–79, Deloss McGraw, L. P. Hollenbeck. 1880, Deloss McGraw, L. P. Hollenbeck. 1881–82–83, R. Bruce Smith, L. P. Hollenbeck. 1884, Deloss McGraw, H. A. Dickinson.

The record of the town of Cortlandville in the War of the Rebellion is a noble one. The call for help in putting down the unholy attack upon the life of the government had scarcely gone forth before a company went forward under Captain Martin C. Clark and Lieut. Alvah D. Waters, while enlistments in other organizations were frequent. And when the darkest days of the contest came, and call after call for great armies of soldiers were issued from the national capital, men and money were both freely furnished by Cortlandville to fill the several quotas. Special meetings were held in accordance with directions of the Board of Supervisors, as already detailed in the history of the town of Homer, and the votes were in each instance almost unanimous for increasing the bounties paid for enlistments to the highest figures proposed. In the cemetery in the village, and in many an unmarked grave on southern battle-fields, lie the remains of the brave men who went forth from this town to offer up their lives in sacrifice for the Union. Much of the record of their deeds has already been written in the chapter of the general history devoted to that subject. The names of all the men who enlisted from the town and were paid bounties, is as follows:—

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid to each, $300. Total, $27,600. — Edward P. Merritt, Henry Hollenbeck, Abel G. Tuttle, George Ellsworth, John R. Beden, George L. Waters, Wilson J. Dayton, John G. Cobb, Alfred B. Hicks, Darius Lindsley, Frank Dolson, John D. Frederick, Franklin Hotchkiss, Daniel Johnson, Albertus Pierce, Sylvester Rounsevell, Isaiah Simpson, John L. Mann, John B. Daball, John Paulson, William H. Mason, Andus Berggren, John Lundin, James Stowell, H. Deloss Cole, Franklin D. Russell, William Otis Tiffany, Joseph Hicks, Clark A. Edgcomb, George A. Marshal, Michael P. Masten, Oringer Stimpson, Harrison Webster, Nathan P. Allen, William C. Tripp, Peter C. Carr, Stephen A. Hastings, James M. Boorr, John Sullivan, Peter Smith, William Jones, Henry Ward, Robert Gilmore, John Jones, James Pierce, Charles H. Waters, Charles A. Van Hagen, Frederick B. Farnham, Charles R. Leonard, William A. Clark, John W. Stebbins, William Brown, Isaac Benson, Adin W. Danes, James H. Curtis, William Hollenbeck, Charles B. Hollenbeck, Caspar Hable, Theodore F. Noble, William H. Burdick, George W. Newton, John W. Dougherty, Winfield S. Carrier, John J. Joyner, vet., Archibald Bowker, John H. Crocker, Edmund Andrews, Gillispie B. Corwin, vet., Lyndon H. Goodenough, John C. Sherman, Charles H. Estabrook, Barney Carter, George W. Barrett, Albert G. Wood, vet., Martin Edgcomb, vet., William H. Myers, vet., John Van Rensselaer, Watts L. Bishop, vet., John Corl, Elwood F. Gates, Roswell Johnson, Charles Francis, vet., Franklin J. Johnson, Samuel Hammond, Darius S. Ellis, George Harrington, Albert J. Jarvis, vet., Robert Arlow, Charles W. Cook,

William H. Galpin, Thomas G. Meacham, James Simpson.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty paid $1,000, except $600 paid to seven; $300 to five; $500 to four; $700 to two; $900 to one, and $925 to one. Brokerage $25. Total bounties, $77,925. Total brokerage, $2,125. — John Gray, jr., Henry J. Mudge, Wm. W. Hathaway, sub. for A. B. Rowley, Ezra R. Puterbaugh, sub. for I. Y. Carr, Miles Sage, sub. for H. P. Randall, Alonzo D. Goodwin, sub. for E. A. Fish, John Brown, sub. for Chas. E. Rowe, Thomas J. Mills, sub. for I. D. Warren, Wm. Norris, sub. for L. L. Stillman, Daniel Auringer, sub. for C. Wickwire, Patrick Nolan sub. for H. Bingham, R. Garrutt, sub. for J. D. Schermerhorn, James Harrington, sub. for E. D. Chafy, Francis White, sub. for R. B. Smith, James Neaville, sub. for C. W. Collins, John Wesley, sub. for T. Parks, Seth Rogers, sub. for A. D. Blodgett, James Snow, sub. for H. L. Rogers, Eugene D. Arnold, Charles O. Alger, Charles F. Beers, Frank H. Bement, Horton L. Bates, Daniel L. Baker, L. Clinton Ball, Joel Benson, Ira T. Brum, Frederick Burch, William Burns, Charles H. Chamberlain, Elisha P. Crosby, Alonzo Carpenter, Thomas Ellsworth, Charles C. Etz, John M. Fish, Joseph Fisher, Matthias W. Fritz, Charles E. Gurley, George Goodell, Alphonso Gross, Harrison Givens, Andrew Hall, Cornelius Hicks, David W. Hodges, Eli B. Hubbard, Grove E. Jarvis, Refine Latting, David Loomis, Daniel Maltby, Frank Mabury, Lucian Mabury, William H. Miller, William N. Owen, Albert W. Pierce, Royal L. Palmer, Frank F. Peck, Albertus H. Peckham, Powell C. Plumb, Joseph G. Rockwell, Burdette Richardson, William E. Simpson, Melvin Sherman, Willard Smith, William P. Stone, Hamilton Spoor, Daniel S. Terwilliger, William H. Traver, Martin Totman, Charles L. Wood, David F. Wallace, Isaac B. Wainwright, Orlando Barber, Charles Barnes, Pembroke Pierce, R. D. Graham, Wm. S. Bunnell, sub. for I. W. Brown, Edward Fleck, sub. for J. M. Pomeroy, Wm. H. Douglass, sub. for Deloss McGraw, Hiram L. Hawley, George H. McGee, sub. for J. A. Nixon, Chas. W. Fox, sub. for Carmi Persons, Bernard Gill, George Washington, Major Coles, George Washington, Franklin Kenfield, George E. Kelley.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty paid to each, $600, except $300 to one, and $500 to seven. Total bounties, $33,700. Total brokerage, $855. Of this bounty the town paid $8,100.—Wm. Kilkenny, sub. for J. S. Barber, Simeon D. Sampson, Frank Loomis, Henry E. Jones, George Dunlap, George Martin, Charles Smith, James Ruddy, Frederick Kane, Henry Ferris, Joseph Fenton, Isaac Bryant, Wm. Brown, Charles Deitzer, James Washington, Henry Williams, Edinboro Taylor, James Smith, Owen McEntyre, John Kelley, F. A. Burdell, Patrick Hunt, William Riley, August Bank, Matthew Beatty, Randolph Mann, Anthony Howard, Charles Howard, Daniel T. Shaw, John McCarty, George J. Williams, Peter West, Andrew Bradley, William Burtell, Michael Murray, Charles Herron, George Winter, Daniel J. Mullau, John Lambert, Phillip Herrberg, Patrick Tully, William West, Lewis Holberg, James K. Miller, Thomas P. Fitzgerald, John Snell, John Talbert, Thomas Farlay, Thomas Byran, George Clark, John Hughes, Frank May, Peter Wells, Benjamin McMarlin, John Simpson, James Kinleck, Freeman A. Hunter, Richard Freeman.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February 1st, 1864, March, 1864, $27,600.00; paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $80,050.00; paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $26,455.00; grand total, $134,105.00.

CORTLAND VILLAGE.

A little to the north of the center of the town of Cortlandville, the diversified topography of which renders it a series of picturesque landscapes, is situated a broad plain a little less than two miles in average extent in either direction, apparently level, but descending very gradually to the eastward. Near its western boundary, but separated from it by a narrow portion of the plain itself, rises a rounded hill to the height of from one to two hundred feet; this hill is somewhat longer from east to west than in its north to south diameter. Along its foot on the western and northwestern sides, flows the clear, spring-fed stream called Otter creek. Across the plain from north to south and near its eastern boundary flows the Tioughnioga river, formed by its two branches; one coming down directly from the northward, and the other (the west branch) flowing along at the foot of the high hill which forms the northern boundary of the plain, jutting down into it and separating the two valleys of the river branches. From seven different points of the compass valleys of varying widths, but all of them possessing features of natural beauty, open upon this broad plain. If there is a spot in the Empire State that is better adapted, either in practical advantages or natural attractiveness, for the site of a village or city, it is not known to the writer; and here has grown, during the past eighty years, the present populous and thriving village of Cortland.

The first settlements within the present corporate limits of this village have already been referred to in the early pages of the history of the town. With the location and pioneer labors of such men as Jonathan Hubbard, Moses Hopkins, Obadiah Boies, William Mallory, David Merrick, Joshua Bassett, Oliver Wiswell, Henry Stephens, and scores of others to whom we shall herein refer, will forever be honorably associated the early growth and prosperity of Cortland; and their noble example seems to have brought to life in the later days of unexampled advancement in the village the same qualities which inspired their hearts when the broad valley was forest-covered and the hill-tops echoed with the nightly howls of the wolf.

Jonathan Hubbard and Moses Hopkins were the pioneers of Cortland village; and when in 1804 the former had become settled in his first dwelling — the first one built on the site of the village — on what is now the corner of Court and Main streets, there were but two other houses within the present corporation limits, unless, perhaps, a few had been erected at Port Watson. Mr. Hubbard lived only long enough to see the nucleus of a village rising around him; but his work down to his death on Christmas day, 1814, was of the greatest influence upon the future of the place.

Mead Merrill was one of the early settlers in what is now the corporation of Cortland. He lived near Port Watson and made many permanent improvements in that section. He built a saw-mill there which was in operation in 1816 and about the year 1820, or earlier, erected the substantial house recently owned and occupied by Frederick Conable. Mr. Merrill is credited by Mr. Ballard, in his published *Reminiscences*, as being the leader of the Federal political party until its dissolution. He was appointed surrogate in the spring of 1810 and county clerk in 1813. Mr. Merrill was a strong Universalist in religious belief, and it was largely by his efforts that the cobble-stone church was erected here.

Josiah Cushman was a resident of Cortland village (or its site) soon after 1800, and became well known through his building of the first court-house, as heretofore described.

Nathan Luce was one of the earliest merchants in Cortland, and about the year 1818 built a hotel which, with subsequent enlargements, made the long famous Eagle Tavern, and which was burned in 1862.

Jacob Wheeler came here in 1812 and was, probably, about the first blacksmith in the village and a maker of edge tools. He was an industrious and enterprising man and did not purpose to fail in life through the delinquencies of creditors, as is shown by the following card, which appeared in the newspaper: —

"*Dear Friends* :—

"All notes and accounts which remain unsettled on the first day of August next will have to be paid to a justice or constable without any reserve, *for I will pay my debts.*

"JACOB WHEELER."

His shop was on the site of the Freer foundry.

Joshua Bassett was another of the first prominent citizens to locate on the site of Cortland village. His residence stood where the Calvert block now is. He with his son, W. H. Bassett, were the first jewelers and silversmiths in the place.

William Bartlit settled in Cortland village not long after the beginning of the century. He was a saddle and harness maker, the first in the place, and long had a prosperous trade, giving employment to a number of hands. His advertisement appears in the local paper soon after it was started in 1815. Mr. Bartlit was one of the commissioners appointed to superintend the building of the court-house. He was elected to the Senate in 1842, from the (then) seventh district.

The literary tastes of the people of Cortland village were exhibited as early as 1815, when an association was formed for the establishment of "The Cortland Village Library," the trustees being Levi Lee, John Burnham, Roger Edgcomb, Nathan Blodgett and Roswell Randall. The library was purchased, embracing a respectable number of the then standard works in historical and general literature. It was a circulating library and was kept in the office of the county clerk during its existence of several years. Roswell Randall is said to have been the moving spirit in this enterprise.[1]

Among other prominent citizens of the little village who came here as early as 1815, or earlier, were James Percival, the accomplished editor of the first newspaper printed here and already more fully noticed; Benjamin S. and David Campbell, also printers and editors, who became proprietors of the *Cortland Republican* in February, 1817, the former being then sheriff of the county; and Asahel Lyman, who, about the year 1816, erected the old brick building still standing on the corner of Main street and Groton avenue, and owned by John S. Samson. This is now the oldest brick building in the village. Here Mr. Lyman, and later the firm of A. P. & G. N. Lyman, did a prosperous business for a number of years. Samuel Hotchkiss, also, settled in Cortland as early as 1815 and became a prominent citizen. He was made deputy clerk of the county by Wm. Mallory in 1815, and held the office under him and two succeeding clerks, Joshua Ballard and Matthias Cook, until January 1st, 1823. He was elected clerk under the new constitution of 1822 and held the office for twelve successive years. He was again elected for the term beginning in January, 1844, and again in 1847. Mr. Hotchkiss lived in Cortland a respected citizen until 1883, when he died.

[1] We are compelled to record the fact that little has been done since the time of this first library (which was a very creditable one for that period) towards establishing a library in Cortland village, until quite recently, when the ladies have taken the matter in hand. They should receive such support as will result in the speedy establishment of a large library which will be a credit to the village.

Edward Allen came to Cortland in 1817, and became a citizen of the village; he was universally respected and his life might well have served as a model for the young men of his time. He was a blacksmith and purchased a lot on Mill street and adjoining on the east the corner premises of Samuel Nelson, now owned and occupied by Frederick Ives. Charles Collins has built his handsome brick dwelling where stood the one-story house of Mr. Allen. Mr. Ballard gives the following account of Mr. Allen's life: "His life is a striking illustration of manual labor dignified by nobility of character. His trade was that of a blacksmith. His pecuniary means were limited. He was endowed with robust health and freedom from personal vices. He was honest, industrious and intelligent, full of neighborly kindness and socially always welcome. He was attentive to all the public questions of that period and became influential; filled the office of justice of the peace, and was one of the county superintendents of the poor for several years. Mrs. Allen is well remembered for unaffected dignity and serenity of manner, nobleness of person and Christian devotion. They had sons and daughters that adorned the household and who in after life reflected honor upon their parents." One of the sons (Edward) removed to Aurora, Illinois, where he became mayor of the city and State Senator. William also removed to that city and became wealthy and influential.

Judge Samuel Nelson came to Cortland in 1818. His eminent career has already been detailed herein. Between the years 1815 and 1820 the little village grew apace and a number of new establishments were opened. The mercantile firm of Lyman & Blair was formed and did an extensive business for several years. Chas. W. Lynde opened a new store just south of where the Union Hall block now stands. Grove Gillett opened a tavern where A. Sager's drug store is located. David Campbell built his dwelling on Main street, on the lot now occupied by Mr. Garrison. Joseph R. Crandall opened his carriage and sleigh manufactory, which is referred to in our record of the manufacturing interests.

In the mean time the two brothers, William and Roswell Randall, who established themselves here as early as 1813, had extended their business operations to a wonderful extent for so small a place and early a period. They had two large stores, one operated by Roswell, where the new Squires block stands, and the other run by William in the Randall Bank building. They owned distilleries and asheries, two of the former being located on South Main street. They dealt in everything the farmers had to dispose of, from tow cloth to live stock, and early laid the foundation of the wealth they subsequently acquired.

The settlement of Dr. Goodyear in the village has already been alluded to. David Merrick came here just as the village began its growth and became a prominent citizen. He built what was then the most pretentious hotel in the place, which stood just west of the site of the Cortland House. Here Samuel Nelson boarded when he first began the practice of the law in Cortland. He had several sons. Danforth built the Cortland House and conducted it for many years. Marcus was a physician and removed to the west and Miner Merrick still lives in the town.

William Elder was one of the early residents of the village and one of the first manufacturers in the vicinity. About the year 1824 he became the owner of real estate at Port Watson, where he built the well known tannery, which did a large business. He removed to the village at an early day and became conspicuous in all movements for the welfare and advancement of the vil-

lage. He was a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church and was one of the building committee for the erection of the church edifice. He was a trustee in the formation of the old cemetery, which was located in what is now the Normal School grounds, and was also a trustee for many years of the academy. He was one of the first boot and shoe merchants and manufacturers in the village and carried on a prosperous business for many years. Mr. Elder had four daughters, one of whom married the Rev. Lemuel S. Pomeroy; another the Rev. Azariah Smith, of Manlius; and a third married the Rev. Addison J. Strong.

Among the persons employed at an early day by W. & R. Randall was Eleazer W. Edgcomb, who acted in the capacity of clerk. He was industrious and possessed of excellent business capacity, which soon placed him in a foremost position in the village. Mr. Ballard wrote of him: "He was an efficient salesman behind the counter; as a trader in produce in the towns along the Susquehanna river, in which he largely engaged, he was an accomplished pilot of boats from the wharf at Port Watson to Harrisburg, in Pennsylvania, and for about twenty years, beginning in 1830, he was one of the most active and influential political managers in the county. In 1823 he formed a copartnership with Adin Webb in the mercantile business, occupying the store formerly used by W. & R. Randall, and becoming very prominent among the early merchants; an ashery was connected with their business. Produce was extensively purchased by them for transportation down the river. Their chief clerk for years was Hamilton White, who subsequently became a leading banker of Syracuse. It was in the employ of this firm that Marsena Morgan and 'Major' Shapley gained imperishable renown as skillful river pilots. In November, 1837, Mr. Edgcomb was elected sheriff. He was village magistrate several years and was one of the building committee for the erection of the present court-house. Mr. Edgcomb married the eldest daughter of Major Adin Webb. She is still a resident of the village."

We have already referred to the early settlement of Nathan Blodgett near the junction of the east and west branches of the river about a mile east of Main street. He died there at a good old age, leaving his son, Benjamin Franklin Blodgett, in possession of the homestead. We again quote from Mr. Ballard: "Benjamin adopted it as his home, adding to its value by the erection of a commodious new dwelling. On the 16th of April, 1832, during the ministry of Nathaniel E. Johnson, he united with the Presbyterian Church, his wife having previously united with the same church in 1826. . . . In all his relations with the church and society Mrs. Blodgett exhibited marked loveliness of demeanor. . . . One of his daughters married Dr. Theodore Pomeroy and another Rev. O. H. Seymour. His son, Alonzo, succeeded to the ownership of the homestead and his exemplary life reflects that of his revered father." Loren Blodgett, another son of Nathan Blodgett, was associated with Jonathan Hubbard in building the first mill at Blodgett's Mills in 1806. He was a prominent and useful member of the Baptist Church and an intelligent and enterprising citizen.

William Mallory, already mentioned, moved into the village before 1815, and became a prominent and influential citizen and politician. He built his residence on the site of the Squires block. On the same lot was a small building which served the purposes of county clerk's office until the old brick building was erected in 1819. Mr. Mallory had a distillery a little west of the Rock Spring cheese factory. He was sheriff from 1800 to 1810; county clerk from

1815 to 1819, and in 1823 was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas, succeeding Judge Keep.

The life of Adin Webb has been alluded to in the history of the town of Homer; but he was so long a prominent citizen of Cortland village that his career merits some attention here. He came to Cortland from Homer in 1823, and became a member of the mercantile firm of Webb & Edgcomb, and afterwards of the firm of Webb & Bishop. Previous to this time he had taught school for seventeen successive years in Homer. He was elected town clerk in 1809, which office he held twenty years. In 1816 he was appointed surrogate and held that office for seven years. In 1829 he was elected sheriff; in 1840 he was again appointed surrogate, holding the office four years, and in 1845 he was made town clerk of Cortlandville, which office he held for eleven years. He united with the Congregational Church of Homer in 1813, and when he removed to Cortland joined the Presbyterian Church. For many years he was chorister and a few of the older inhabitants of the place, who have listened to his voice Sabbath after Sabbath, will remember him, perhaps, in that capacity more vividly than in any other. It is sufficient praise of Mr. Webb to say that all of the public trusts to which he was called were deserved by him and their duties fulfilled with ability and loyalty to the public good.

Joshua Ballard was a cotemporary of Mr. Webb and came to Homer in 1797, and for one season taught one of the first schools there. He removed to Cortland about the year 1819, in which year he was apppointed county clerk. He was one of the founders of the Cortland Academy and raised and commanded the first cavalry company in the county. Various town offices were conferred upon him and he was an eminently respected and useful citizen. Of these two men Mr. Ballard wrote: "The public confidence in the intelligence, integrity and fidelity of Joshua Ballard and Adin Webb, evidenced in their services in these various civil stations, is a sufficient encomium upon their memory as citizens. One reached in age almost eighty-one, the other eighty-five, and the pilgrimage of each was distinguished by the even tenor of a Christian example."

Early in the year 1818 the first steps were taken towards the organization of the first county agricultural society, Levi Boies, Chas. W. Lynde and Henry Stephens being the committee to draft the constitution. This society will be found described in another place in these pages.

We have spoken of Joshua Bassett as having been the first jeweler in the village. Of his family and others of his time we quote as follows from Mr. Ballard: "In the third number of the first village paper, and over the date of July 12th, 1815, Joshua Bassett and his son, William H. Bassett, announce to the public that they are 'clock and watchmakers, gold and silversmiths and have lately opened their shop in Cortland, where they make to order all kinds of work in their line, having recently received from New York a fresh supply of materials.' This shop was upon the same lot as the dwelling house of Mr. Bassett. Located on the west side of Main street and about in the center of the village, it was one of the handsomest as well as one of the most eligible sites of the town. Part of it is now occupied by the Calvert block and the First National Bank.

"There were sons and daughters in the family of Mr. Bassett, and for over sixty years the family name was represented in the village. Parents and children were distinguished for intelligence and uprightness of character. The eldest son, Wm. H., possessed more than ordinary talent. He spent

some years in Philadelphia as a pupil of distinguished artists. He became an accomplished engraver and a member of the Graphic Company located in Hartford, Conn., then perhaps the most celebrated company of artists in the United States. . . He was attractive in person, graceful in manner, winning in conversation and an exquisite humorist. The second son, Abiram L., was a genius in his way, and an acute observer of men, especially of their follies and weaknesses, and luxuriated in fun. Pages might be written of his grotesque operations on the unsuspecting, which are still related with the traditions of that period. One of the daughters married Wm. Randall and another married Samuel Moody Perkins, one of the early attorneys of the village.

"Adjoining the premises of Mr. Bassett on the north, were the grounds of Col. Obadiah Boies, a time honored name of Cortland, and one intimately connected with the enterprises and political movements of that period. For a time he was proprietor of the village newspaper. He was a man of ability, active and influential, and filled various stations of public trust. . . . Levi Boies, a brother of the colonel, was an early resident and physician who for years had an extensive and lucrative practice. His residence was just west of the Cortland House site, where John S. Samson now lives. He married a daughter of David Merrick.

"John Thomas came to Cortland in 1824 and became the law partner of Henry Stephens. He was a graduate of Yale College and a man of exceptional ability. He represented the county in the Legislature in 1837. He became a resident of Galesburg, Ill., just before the late war. Daniel J. Betts was at one period a partner of Mr. Thomas. He came from Cooperstown in the spring of 1823, to fill the position of clerk in equity in the sixth circuit, to which he was appointed by Judge Samuel Nelson. Mr. Betts was an able man and was rapidly gaining a foremost position in his profession, when, by overtaxing his strength and taking a severe cold, he was prostrated with a fever and died in the full flush of manhood.

"Truman Doud's name must forever be intimately connected with the early advancement of Cortland village. He was one of the most active and enterprising business men of the place while he lived, and became the owner of a large tract of land on both sides of the east branch of the Tioughnioga between the old Miller farm and Brayton's mill; was an extensive dealer in cattle and horses, shipping them to Philadelphia and other eastern markets. It is said of him by an old resident that 'he was a man who had a good many irons in the fire and none of them burned.' He died at the early age of forty-four years and his loss was deeply felt throughout the community. The scenes at the funeral were unusually impressive for that period. In addition to other evidences of regard for his memory, upwards of fifty citizens of the highest respectability formed in procession on horseback at the residence, nearly two miles from the cemetery, and, leading the carriages in attendance, accompanied the remains to the grave."[1]

Abram Mudge was a prominent citizen of early years and long owned the old "red mill," now operated by Thomas F. Brayton. Mr. Mudge was the supervisor of the town a number of years and was the father of Ebenezer Mudge, now of this village, and of Byron and Romeyn Mudge. Byron Mudge married Julia Rollo, a lady whose memory will be long cherished in Cortland.

At this point it will be proper and interesting to quote from Mr. Ballard his comparison of the village in early days with

[1] Mr. Ballard's *Reminiscences*.

its condition at the time of his writing, but a few years since. Said he: "It is a pleasure to recount events in the history of the village. A few are still living who were familiar with its site when it was covered by a majestic forest, dotted only by half a dozen humble dwellings. It was not then imagined that in the circle of a lifetime it would become one of the handsomest towns in the Empire State. Standing upon the elevated ground just east of the village, at an hour when the morning sun is lighting up the distant, gently-swelling hills, covering the mists of the valley with a roseate hue, while beyond temple, tower and town reflect the radiance of the King of Day, with the foreground beautified by a sparkling, flowing stream, altogether compose a landscape not to be forgotten.

"Take another stand-point on the elevation at the west end of Court street, at an hour when town and plain, river, valley, and distant hills are covered with a sunset glow, and gaze upon that scene until it melts into the softened gray of twilight, and you have a panorama of surpassing beauty. The luxurious fields are adorned with grand old elms, whose strength and beauty have increased during the lapse of years until they have become monuments to perpetuate the memory of the founders of the village.

"Early residents occaisonally return here from their distant homes in the West and look with delight upon the growth and beauty of Cortland. It possesses many natural advantages. To these were added the enterprise and energy of sagacious men. Quite early in its local history advances began in its material prosperity and the cultivation of the morals of society. Although the date of its origin was about the year 1815, scarcely a building of that period now remains of its original foundation. All have been taken down, all pushed aside, to be supplanted by loftier and more costly structures. The old yellow store, which stood for nearly forty years on the southeast corner of Main street, built and occupied by Wm. and Roswell Randall, the theatre of their early fortunes, and once resonant with the vocies of their far-famed clerks, Eleazer W. Edgcomb and Delos Moody, had to move from its position and take a place on a retired street. Jacob Wheeler's blacksmith shop has given place to the foundry, and the modest home of Daniel Laisdell, for years a furniture dealer, has been dismissed for the tasteful residence of Stephen Brewer. Luce's tavern has yielded the supremacy to the Messenger House. The Squires block is upon the lot which for years was the cherished home of the Hon. William Mallory; and upon the same lot was a small wooden building kept as a clerk's office as late as the summer of 1819. Nearly opposite these premises was the lot on which stood the residence and office of Oliver Wiswell. Judge Wiswell and Judge Stephens were law partners. It was the earliest law firm in the county and for years they stood at the head of the bar. But residence and office have gone into the past, and the grounds upon which they stood are now covered with beautiful flowers, which are suggestive of other things which are beautiful — of gentleness, faith and hope.

"Passing along upon the west side of Main street, the corner is reached where once stood a tavern which for several years was the principal inn of the village — afterwards converted into a female seminary and finally crumbled away to make room for the Taylor Hall block.

"On the lot now owned by the Wickwire brothers stood a building in former years which was the store of Chas. W. Lynde, and afterwards of his brother, Geo. Lynde, both prominent and influential men,

the former a State Senator, the latter an accomplished physician.

"The old store of Tercius Eels has moved back to allow the splendid Garrison block to come to the front. The corner lot where stands the noble brick edifice of Major Aaron Sager and the Dexter House, was once occupied by a tavern building of ordinary size, owned by Grove Gillett, with whom Samuel Nelson, afterward one of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, took board for a time.

"Almost the only landmarks of early years in the way of buildings now left on their original foundations are the Lyman stores, so called, and the dwelling house built by Samuel Nelson — the former owned by John S. Samson, the latter by Frederick Ives. They were both attractive buildings at the period of their erection and their durability proves the worth of the materials and the faithfulness of the workers. In that dwelling house Samuel Nelson spent the first three years of his married life, and in an upper room in that brick store he began the practice of law in the year 1817."

In referring to the business pursuits of the citizens of Cortland village at the beginning of the year 1821, Mr. Ballard wrote as follows: —

"Then Truman Doud, Harry Griffin, Gideon Messenger, Rufus Jennings and others, were engaged in the purchase from time to time, of immense droves of cattle for the Philadelphia market. Joshua Ballard and Bela Pierce, from year to year, were purchasing horses of prime value, sometimes for market in Philadelphia and sometimes for market in the city of Hartford. In the month of March in the year 1821 they started a procession of fifty horses from this village to Philadelphia, and the following year another drove to Hartford. At the same period our merchants and produce buyers were loading arks of forty tons burthen and boats of half that tonnage, with gypsum, salt, oats, potatoes and pork, and floating them in the seasons of freshet, from the wharves at Port Watson, for Northumberland and Harrisburg on the Susquehanna. Crowds of spectators were accustomed to assemble on the banks of the Tioughnioga, just above the bridge at Port Watson, to witness the start of the fleet of arks and boats on the swollen current of the river, accompanied with shouts and adieus to the merry crews as they darted down the stream."

It was on the 23d day of November, 1815, that the local newspaper announced the opening of the dry goods store of Asahel Lyman — the first establishment of that character in the village. It was in the old brick building now occupied for the same purpose by John S. Samson, or on that site. Mr. Lyman was from Massachusetts, "possessed an intelligent mind, a handsome person and an agreeable address." Of his family and his business connections, Mr. Ballard says: "In a year or two he formed a copartnership with Sylvester Blair, the brother of Mrs. Lyman, and for many years the mercantile firm of Lyman & Blair existed, attended with success. Mr. Blair was endowed with an excellent capacity for business and in his early years was active and enterprising. He was fortunate in his marriage. His wife was Nancy Lyman of Newark. Beautiful in person, and lovely in character, she lent a charm to the domestic circle. In 1829 he originated a pottery establishment in this village and for years carried on an extensive trade in that line, in connection with his mercantile business. In after years Madison Woodruff became the proprietor of the pottery where stone ware of superior quality and workmanship is still manufactured."

"Mr. Blair built a brick dwelling house on the lot now occupied by Masonic Hall

block, and a brick store adjacent, which he occupied up to the time of his death, which occurred in the city of New York, in October, 1839. The copartnership of Lyman & Blair was dissolved in the autumn of 1826. About the year 1840 Mr. Lyman retired from business, and was succeeded by his sons, Asahel P. and Geo. N. Lyman, who continued in trade until about the year 1846, and having disposed of their property here, they located in the west, Asahel in Sheboygan and George at Ripon, Wisconsin.

"About the year 1817 Samuel Blair, a brother of Sylvester, became a resident in Cortland. He was an intelligent man, affable and gentle in manner, leading a quiet life and pursuing the business of cooperage. Mrs. Blair was a woman of decided worth. . . . Her life was spared to witness a wonderful success in the acquisition of wealth attending her sons, Chauncey B. Blair, Lyman Blair and Wm. Blair. Chauncey, at an early day, emigrated to Michigan City and engaged largely in the purchase and sale of lands. He finally went to Chicago and became president of the Merchants' National Bank, and after the great fire his was the only banking-house that was not compelled to succumb to the great conflagration, but continued to meet its engagements and pursue its business.

"Lyman Blair has amassed a fortune in Chicago in the 'packing business,' so called, and is now somewhat retired from active employment. Wm. Blair has also gathered a fortune, and his firm is one of the foremost hardware establishments in Chicago. Ann Eliza Blair married Eleazer W. Densmore, of Chicago. Caroline Blair married Parker Crosby, formerly a resident of Cortland.

"Another son, Samuel Blair, is a resident of Cortland, by occupation a farmer, in the enjoyment of a pleasant home, surrounded in abundance with all that is needful in this life, a kind husband and a good citizen.

"Such is a brief retrospect of this remarkable family, affording a useful illustration of what can be accomplished by individual enterprise, beginning without money, but sustained by devoted industry, frugality, patience and an exalted moral worth. The mother reached the age of seventy-seven, and the father almost eighty-one.

"Asahel P. Lyman, in Sheboygan, Wis., engaged in the mercantile trade and in the commerce of the lakes, and became the owner of several vessels, and encountered the risks attendant upon such property.

"George N. Lyman, at Ripon, embarked largely in real estate enterprises and the purchasing of cattle for market.

"There is one other member of the family of Asahel Lyman who is worthy of remembrance. He had an only daughter, named Dolly Ann, whose name will sound familiar to many still residing here. About the year 1824 Mr. Lyman became the owner of, and resided in, the house built by Judge Nelson and now owned by Frederick Ives. There Dolly Ann passed happy years in the springtime of life. She was thoroughly educated, refined in taste, gentle and attractive in manner. In 1826, and while William Bacon was the minister, and when the services were held in the old court-house on the hill, a remarkable addition to the recently formed church took place. While in the flower of youth, Dolly Ann Lyman, Ursula Webb, Sarah Boies Dayton, Pamelia Hubbard, Emeline Avery, Minerva Dayton, Stata Hotchkiss, Ada, Laura, Lavinia, Phebe and Esther Cravath, Daniel Wheeler, William Curtis Boies, Thomas Farnham and many others were enrolled as members. For years afterwards these were household names in Cortland, and they are yet hallowed in memory. To allude to them now it seems like 'light from heaven's shore,' most of them having gone to their rest. In

after years Dolly Ann became the wife of Ceylon North, of Ripon, Wis."

Thus beneath the laboring and governing hands of such men and women as have been briefly mentioned, the young village grew in wealth and numbers and strength, and waited patiently for the day when her turnpike stages should give place to railroads and her streets become busy with the hum of manufacturing machinery. We cannot follow the records of individual life and labor beyond the comparatively early settlers, except as they will further appear in these pages in the history of the professions and the industries of the place, where many names that will always be prominent in every reference to the advancement of the village will be found associated with the various mercantile and manufacturing establishments that are the outgrowth of their enterprise.

The forefathers of Cortland loved amusement, as well as their descendants; but in early days there was little to divert attention from the daily routine of work. General training and the old-fashioned celebration of the Fourth of July were about all the events towards which the inhabitants turned for amusement, except such other as they could devise themselves. The owners of fast horses in the village of to-day will find it difficult to believe that it was more than sixty years ago that racing was inaugurated in what was then considered grand style and which would not suffer in comparison with later events of that character; yet such is the case, as appears from a newspaper announcement of Aug. 20th, 1820, as follows:—

"Cortland Races.— The heats will commence at Cortland village, on Tuesday, the 19th day of September next, and continue three days; free for any horse, mare or gelding, carrying weight for age; three mile heats.

"A purse of $100 will be awarded to the winning horse on the first day. $75 to the winning horse on the second day — first day winning horse excluded.

"The five per cent. entrance money required on the purses of the first two days to constitute a purse to be awarded to the swiftest three-year-old colt on the third day — one mile heat.

"The riders must be dressed in jockey style. No jockeying or running in company will be tolerated, and should it be discovered, the purse will be withheld.

"All differences will be settled by the judges.

"TRUMAN DOUD,
"CHAS. W. LYNDE,
"STEPHEN KNAPP,
"ROSWELL RANDALL,
"Judges."

Mr. Ballard gives the following account of the first event of this kind: —

"At length the long wished for day arrived, and such a gathering in of people from this and adjacent counties, Cortland had not before witnessed. It was delightful autumnal weather. Far-famed horses had been practicing on the course for several days previous. Everything denoted a great trial of speed. The contestants were here from remote counties and adjacent States. Intelligence of the coming struggle reached throughout the adjacent country and for the week agricultural pursuits were suspended.

"The spot arranged for these races was the beautiful level easterly of the Ithaca and Elmira railway station. The course was circular, one mile around. On a natural mound nearly in the center, the judges' stand was built. The multitude encircled the field and were held in order by an appropriate police. As the hour approached the horses were led in. Soon the riders in full jockey dress appeared. In a few moments the bugle sounds, the horses and their riders come to the scratch, and five in number contend for the prize. On no occasion since has there been an equal struggle of bottom and speed in Cortland. On this day the grey mare, 'Highland Polly,' won the purse. It was a memorable week in the history of Cortland. The races were repeated for a year or two afterward until a boy rider named Hiles, from Dryden, was thrown against a tree and instantly killed, to the dismay and horror of the crowd. Thus ended, from

that day on, the running of 'heats' in Cortland. Soon the circus and the menagerie began to appear and they supplied the people with amusement. Meanwhile the race-course of former years is crossed by the railway, the bugle call for the courser is exchanged for the locomotive whistle and the running of horses for the rush of trains."

Meanwhile the "Cortland Village Library" was established[1] (1815), the trustees being Levi Lee, John Burnham, Roger Edgcomb, Nathan Blodgett and Roswell Randall; the first agricultural society was organized (1818) and its first fair held in November of that year; the Presbyterian Church was erected (1826) as elsewhere detailed; the Baptist Church was erected (1833) and dedicated on the 9th of October of that year; the "Cortland Village Female Seminary" was founded (1828), with Wm. Randall, Henry Stephens, Nathan Dayton, Wm. Elder, Danforth Merrick and Rev. Luke Lyons prominent among the early trustees; the academy was opened (1842) and its long career of usefulness begun; the railroad was completed (1854) causing rejoicing throughout the county, which was soon followed (1860) by the advent of Hiram J. Messenger and the era of extensive building operations inaugurated by him; an era of manufacturing operations which has not yet closed, and probably never will close, and has led up to the present exalted position of the village in all things bearing upon its material prosperity.

Incorporation and Subsequent Public Measures. — For six weeks prior to the 1st of October, 1853, the following notice was published in the columns of the Cortland *Democrat*, printed in Cortland village: —

"Take notice: That an application will be made at the next court of Sessions to be held at the court-house in Cortlandville, in and for the county of Cortland, on the second Monday of October next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, or as soon thereafter as petitioners can be heard, for an order to incorporate the following described territory as a village by the name of Cortland, situate lying and being in the town of Cortlandville in said county, bounded and described as follows: — Beginning at the southwest corner of lot No. 65, Cortlandville, south one and three-fourths degrees west, ninety-four rods, crossing the Dryden road, to a stake near the west bounds of the Virgil road, for the southwest corner. Thence south 88 and a half degrees east one rod twenty links, to the center of said Virgil road, 81 rods to the center of Main street, 219 rods to the center of Pendleton street, two hundred and twenty rods to a stone stake on lot No. 75, for the southeast corner. Thence north one and three-fourths degrees east forty-four rods to the north line of said lot No. 75, being the center of Port Watson street, two hundred and eighty-one rods eighteen links to the center of Main street, crossing the west branch of the Tioughnioga River, three hundred and twenty rods to an apple tree, for the northeast corner. Thence north eighty-eight and a half degrees west, eight rods to the center of the Truxton road, one hundred and seventy-eight and a half rods to the center of said river, two hundred and six rods to the center of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad, two hundred and ninety-eight rods and twenty-three links to the center of the plank road leading from Cortland to Syracuse, three hundred and twenty rods to the west line of said lot No. 65, for the northwest corner, in the center of the road leading by the premises of I. I. Adams to Homer village. Thence south one and three-fourth degrees west, one hundred and forty-four and a half rods along

[1] "What is eminently needed in this village is a well-selected circulating or lending library, under the care and supervision of the Young Men's Christian Association. Such libraries exist in almost every considerable town throughout the State. Their usefulness is fully vindicated. What a refuge of rest and improvement it would afford after the weary hours of toil! How many it would tend to wean from the resorts of idleness and vice! It is almost a reproach to our town that, with its five thousand inhabitants, it has no circulating library. He would be a public benefactor who would start such an enterprise. It is only a question of time. It will come and it will triumph. The wealth of intelligence and virtue which it would add to the place would be more valuable and lasting than added gold. The growing capacity of the working classes would appreciate and improve the privileges conferred thereby." — Mr. Ballard's *Reminiscences*.

the road and the west line of the lot No. 65, to the center of the Groton road, two hundred and twenty-six rods to the place of beginning, containing 640 acres, or one square mile; and notice is hereby further given that an accurate survey and map of the above described territory and an accurate census of the resident population of such territory as it was on the 23d day of August, 1853, and the names of every head of a family residing therein on such day, and the number of persons belonging to every such family, have been left with Edwin F. Gould, a resident of said territory, at his office therein, subject to examination at all reasonable hours by every person interested in such application."

The application for the order of the court was signed by the following persons: Horace P. Goodrich, James W. Sturtevant, E. N. Doud, O. R. Robinson, W. A. Thayer, R. H. Duell, James S. Squires, M. Rowley, D. C. Cloyes, H. G. Buell, George S. Taylor, John Rose, N. McDaniels, H. F. Lyman, Carl Aug. Kohler, David Fisk, Daniel Schermerhorn, J. S. Samson, Oliver Hitchcock, John L. Luce, Wm. Gager, Daniel P. Rounds, David Peck, Horace Buell, I. M. Seaman, J. B. Horton, A. G. Burr, Jeremiah Van Valen, Daniel Smith, Samuel S. Woodruff, Henry Woodruff, Edwin F. Gould.

This constituted the first step towards giving the village of Cortland a corporate existence. The population of the village on the date mentioned was twelve hundred and fifty-nine.

On the 5th of November, 1853, a meeting of the electors within the boundaries described was held at the town hall for the purpose of voting upon the question of incorporation. At this meeting 232 votes were cast, 130 of which were in favor of the application, and 102 against it. An election of village officers was held on the 26th of November, at which Joseph Reynolds, Horace P. Goodrich, William O. Barnard, James W. Sturtevant and William A. Thayer were elected the first board of trustees. Joseph Reynolds was elected president of the board, and Charles Foster clerk. Three assessors were elected, in the persons of Abram Mudge, David Fisk and David R. Hubbard; Leavitt Cudworth was elected collector; Wm. R. Randall, treasurer, and Henry Scutt, pound-master. Village by-laws were adopted at the meeting of the 8th of December, 1853. The yard in rear of the store of D. Schermerhorn was arranged for the village pound. On the 15th of December a resolution of the board was adopted, that an engineer be employed to take the level of Otter creek, to ascertain "if the water from said creek can in any manner be made more available to the use of the village." A report on this topic was made at the next meeting embodying the statement that the bed of Otter creek 270 rods above the Cortland House is three feet above the level of the sidewalk at the Cortland House. The water question was discussed, as it has been on so many occasions since, and "laid over." As far as Otter creek is concerned it has "lain over" until the present year (1884).

The first list of accounts audited by the village board was a bill of $2.50 in favor of A. Green; of $2.50 to Stephen Brewer; $3.75 each to Ancil Snow and Z. C. Allis; and $9.40 to Charles Foster.

Under the administration of the new village government improvements were rapidly introduced. Provision was made for the purchase of adequate fire extinguishing apparatus, which was effected in the latter part of the year 1854; streets were improved and sidewalks ordered in various parts of the village. Among the latter were: —

"A plank walk upon the west side of Main street from W. R. Randall's corner opposite the post-office, north to the turn of the plank road at Welch's corner.

"A plank walk upon the east side of Main street from Doud & Clark's marble shop south to L. Reynolds's store building; the portions of said walk now laid with stone to be relaid with that material or plank substituted therefor at the option of the owners of the respective lots.

"A plank walk on both sides of Port Watson street, from Main to Greenbush street.

"A plank walk on the north side of Mill street from Main street to the railroad.

"A plank walk on the east side of Church street, from Mill street to Port Watson street.

"A plank walk on both sides of Railroad street from Church to Greenbush street, and on the south side of Railroad street from Greenbush street to the railroad."

When we reflect that it was only thirty years ago that these and many other similar improvements were needed, the rapid advancement of the village is vividly apparent.

At the meeting of the board held on the 5th of August, 1860, the following preamble and resolution was adopted, which is self-explanatory: —

"*Whereas*, James A. Schermerhorn, of the village of Cortland, in behalf of himself and associates, has petitioned the constituted authorities of said village for the privilege of opening the streets, lanes and thoroughfares of said village, for the purpose of introducing main and service pipes, that the various buildings, etc., may be furnished with gas —

"Now, therefore, we the subscribers, believing the said introduction of gas to be a public benefit to our village, by virtue of the authority vested in us as officers of said village, hereby authorize the said Schermerhorn and associates, or assigns, to lay said pipes and open said streets, agreeable to said petition, being an exclusive privilege for twenty-five years, the three first without tax."

This act concluded with the usual provision against injuring the streets and was signed by all of the trustees.

Down to this time there had been progress made in the village in other directions than the introduction of gas. Numerous sidewalks had been laid, and they were gradually increasing in width, while the number of roving cows that found their way from the streets to the public pound constantly decreased. In 1861 the village by-laws then in existence were repealed entire, and new ones substituted, which were broader in scope and more stringent in the government of the place, and in 1864 a new charter was adopted.

Gas pipes having been introduced through the village and the company's works being in operation, $130 was appropriated by the trustees of 1863 for the erection of ten gas street lamp posts, and $125 for gas for lighting the same. This was an improvement that was heartily appreciated; Thos. Stephenson took the first contract for lighting the lamps, at fifteen cents a night.

Cortland village was re-chartered by the Legislature of 1864, and the first election under the new charter was held on the 3d day of May of that year. Chas. Foster was elected president. Theodore Cornwell and Abram Mudge were elected trustees to serve two years; A. Leroy Cole and Henry Bates for one year. Harlow G. Buell was elected treasurer. Moses Rowley was elected assessor; and Joseph T. Bates, collector. Meetings of the board were set down for the first Monday of each month. The by-laws were amended and new ones adopted to meet the growing requirements of the village and the new government began its work with energy.

In February, 1866, resolutions were adopted empowering Chas. Foster to apply to the Legislature for power to borrow moneys with which to pave Main street, and to amend the charter so as to allow the appointment of police constables for the village, not exceeding four in number. The first named resolution referred to the first piece of paving done in the village. The sum to be borrowed was not to exceed $4,000.

The contract for the work was executed in June, 1866, at a cost of $3,500, for which amount the village bonds were issued, payable in four equal annual installments.

It was at this time that the question of securing the location of the Normal School in this village was agitated. Three sites were offered by the village authorities for this purpose, each containing five acres of land of a valuation of from $5,000 to $8,000 each, with the sum of $25,000 in cash, if the school should be located here. Horatio Ballard and Chas. Foster were authorized to proceed to Albany on the 20th of November, 1866, to present these proposals to the proper authorities, with discretionary power to increase the amount of cash offered to $50,000. The same gentlemen were made a committee to prepare petitions for circulation outside of the corporation, to raise funds in aid of this measure.

The proposal (upon the $50,000 basis) was accepted by the commission, provided the amount of the donation should be increased to $75,000 in case that amount should be found necessary, and a meeting of the citizens of the village was held on the 11th of December, at which this question was voted upon. Three hundred and twelve voted in favor of accepting the proposition of the commission, to eleven against it. The site of the building between Church and Greenbush streets was selected May, 1857, and the structure erected by J. N. Greene, under the supervision of Mr. Wilcox, the architect. Its further history is given a little farther on.

On the first day of May, 1873, a special election was held to vote upon an act "to supply the village with pure and wholesome water," for which a tax was to be imposed. The vote was largely against the measure. Another effort in this direction was made in 1874, when Frederick Knight, Frederick Ives, N. J. Parsons, John McFarland and William R. Randall were appointed a committee to report the present means of furnishing water for fire purposes, and also to report some means whereby sufficient water could be procured. Nothing came of these efforts, except their possible influence on later measures.

In the year 1875, it having become apparent that a new engine house was an imperative necessity, steps were taken by which the present handsome and substantial structure was erected, at a cost of about $7,500. L. J. Viele was the builder. In the same year a proposition to raise $5,900 with which to purchase a steam engine, hose, etc. was voted down; but the following year the measure was adopted, and $5,000 was raised for the purchase of engine and equipments and $2,500 for additional wells, with which the village is now thoroughly supplied.

The village was divided into four wards in December, 1877, chiefly for the purpose of locating fires more readily by strokes of the bell corresponding to the number of the ward. Main street was made the dividing line north and south and Court and Railroad streets east and west.

While the above improvements constitute some of the more important measures adopted for the better government and the general welfare of the village, many other minor improvements have kept pace with the rapid growth of the place. Especially is this true of the opening of streets, the improvement of those already open, the building of sidewalks, and other matters denoting a thorough understanding of what is needed and a determination on the part of the authorities to make Cortland village second to none in the State as a place of business or residence.

Following is a list of the presidents and clerks of the village, from the date of its incorporation to the present time, the name

of the president being given first in each instance: —

1853 to 1856, inclusive, Joseph Reynolds, Chas. Foster; 1857, A. S. Higgins, Chas. Foster; 1858, A. S. Higgins, H. Crandall. 1859–60, Thos. Keator, H. A. Randall; 1861, Thos. Keator, Chas. Foster; 1862, Allen B. Smith, Wm. R. Stone; 1863, Henry Brewer, H. L. Collins; 1864, John T. Barnes, B. B. Andrews; 1865, Chas. Foster, B. B. Andrews; 1866, Chas. Foster, H. A. Randall; 1867, Chas. Foster, I. H. Palmer; 1868–69, Chas. Foster, H. A. Randall; 1870, H. Crandall, H. A. Randall; 1871, J. S. Barber, I. M. Seaman; 1872, W. H. Crane, B. A. Benedict; 1873, W. D. Tisdale, Dorr C. Smith; 1874, J. C. Carmichael, Dorr C. Smith; 1875, Jas. M. Smith, Dorr C. Smith; 1876, Jas. C. Carmichael, John C. Putnam; 1877–78, J. S. Barber, E. S. More; 1879, R. B. Smith, E. S. More; 1880, L. J. Fitzgerald, E. S. More; 1881–82, I. H. Palmer, J. Hubbard; 1883, A. Mahan, J. Hubbard;[1] 1884, D. E. Smith, F. Hatch.

CHURCH HISTORY.

Methodist Episcopal Church. — In the year 1804 there were but three dwellings within the present boundaries of Cortland village, one of which was that of Jonathan Hubbard, and stood on the northeast corner of Main and East Court streets, where the National Bank of Cortland is now located. A religious society had been partially organized in Homer, but as far as known no services had been held on or very near the site of Cortland village. At this time the Rev. William Hill, who had formerly been a Baptist preacher, came to Cortland. Mr. Hubbard was a Presbyterian, but his Christian faith was broad enough to enable him to welcome any minister of Christ. He accordingly took Mr. Hill into his home, assisted him in sending notices to all of the families within reach, and the first meeting was held in his house. Mr. Hill went away, leaving an appointment for his second service, and so continued doing until the winter of that year, when he received into the church Jonathan and Mary Hubbard, James Hubbard, Abigail Hubbard, Elijah Batchelor, Martha Batchelor, Isaac Bassett, Polly Bassett, William Bassett and Catherine Sherwood, and formed a class, with Mr. Batchelor as leader. This was the germ of the Methodist Church in Cortland. It was then attached to the Cayuga Circuit, Genesee District, of the Philadelphia Conference.

Preaching was continued with regularity once in two weeks, later by Elder Batchelor, while he remained here; after which prayer and class-meetings were held. In the year 1810 the first quarterly meeting was held in Cortland, in an unfinished barn. The work went on with sufficient good results to inspire the little body of Christians with faith in the future, until 1812, when Rev. James Kelsey was appointed to the charge. There were then twelve or fifteen families in the little hamlet and others in the vicinity. Mr. Kelsey was a man of much power and a great revival followed his ministry, almost every family, or some members of it, joining the church. Solomon Cogswell, one of the early settlers at Port Watson, was then class-leader.

The meetings during this early period were held in private houses; in the schoolhouse after it was built and later in the upper room of the academy. Often in summer, when the congregation was too large for the most available building, the people would repair to the woods, and there, under the thick foliage, offer their adoration to God.

Thus matters went on until the year 1821, when, on the 13th of March, a meeting of the male members of the church was held at the house of John Stillman. Rev. Mr. Kelsey was chairman and Solomon Cogswell clerk. At that meeting was formed

[1] J. Hubbard died during the year, and the vacancy was filled by F. Hatch.

the "First Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Homer." John Stillman, Jonathan Hubbard and Isaac Bassett were chosen trustees. Mr. Cogswell and Amos Norton were added a little later. At this meeting it was decided to make an effort to build a church edifice. For about ten years Cortland village had boasted a court-house and a jail, but no house of worship graced its streets. To their honor, be it said, the inhabitants of the place gave the movement their undivided assistance. A building committee was appointed consisting of Chas. W. Lynde, Roswell Randall and Samuel Nelson. It was made a condition that no debt should be contracted in erecting the building, and the work of obtaining subscriptions went on. The corner-stone was laid on the 4th of July, 1821, with imposing and somewhat peculiar ceremonies. The entire community was invited to participate in the event. The meeting was held in the forenoon in the old Baptist meeting-house, north of the village, where services were opened by a prayer by Rev. Alfred Bennett. Major Adin Webb, with his choir from Homer, conducted the music, and Rev. George W. Densmore delivered the discourse. Then, at the close of the services, a procession was formed under the marshalship of Gen. Daniel Miller and Martin Keep, which marched through the beautiful grove of forest trees that skirted the northern part of the village and down Main street to the site of the church. The stone was laid by the building committee, and addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Kelsey and Rev. Mr. Baker, of Auburn. After these ceremonies the procession marched to the hotel of Nathan Luce, on the site of the Messenger House, where a dinner was served "at thirty-one cents each." After the cloth was removed, toasts were drank to the number of twenty or more, among them being such subjects as "our country," "the doughfaces," "agriculture," "the army and navy," "slavery," "our donors," "the ladies," etc. All this seems strange at this day, as a part of the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of a Methodist church; but at that time it was considered an appropriate and fitting programme.

The church building was not finished until the year 1823, on account of a scarcity of money. It was finally consecrated by Rev. Geo. W. Densmore. A revival was experinced in 1829 and another memorable one in 1839.

A Sunday-school was established in 1831, and a female missionary society the same year. The present handsome church edifice was erected in 1866, at a cost of about $30,000 and the society is now and has been for many years in a thriving condition. Following is a list of all the pastors who have served the church and the dates of their ministry: —

1804–05, William Hill; 1806, Joseph Polhemus; 1807, J. P. Weaver; 1808, Joseph Scull; 1809, Elijah Batchelor; 1810, Anning Owen; 1811, Elijah Batchelor; 1812, James Kelsey; 1813, Dan. Barnes; 1814, Palmer Roberts; 1815, Jonathan Huistus; 1816, Loring Grant; 1817–18, James Kelsey; 1819, J. Kimberlin; 1820, James Kelsey; 1821, Geo. W. Densmore; 1822, Elias Bowen; 1823, John Dempster; 1824, Seth Mattison; 1825–26, Geo. W. Densmore; 1827, Zenas Jones; 1828, C. N. Flint; 1829–30, Geo. White; 1831, W. W. Ninde; 1832–33, J S. Mitchell; 1834–35, Robert Fox; 1836, P. M. Way; 1837, Joseph Cross; 1838, Selah Stocking; 1839–40, H. F. Rowe; 1841–42, Selah Stocking; 1843, Fred Humphreys; 1844–45, Moses Adams; 1846–47, Hanford Collins; 1848, J. B. Benham; 1849–50, W. N. Pearne; 1851–52, Daniel Cobb; 1853–54, L. D. Davis; 1855–56, A. S. Graves; 1857–58, G. W, Bridge; 1859–60, E. C. Brown; 1861, A.

J. Grover; 1862–63, E. Hoag; 1864–65, E. Owen; 1866–67–68, E. C. Curtis; 1869–70–71, J. T. Crippen; 1872–73–74, A. Roe; 1875–76, J. Alabaster; 1877–78, G. W. Izer; 1879–80, Elijah Horr; Rev. W. H. Annable is the presnt pastor.

The Presbyterian Church. — On the 25th of November, 1824, pursuant to previous notice, a meeting of the citizens of Cortland was held in the court-house, for the purpose of forming a Presbyterian church and society. Daniel Budlong was called to the chair and David Joline appointed secretary. A constitution was reported for consideration and, it having been read, further action was deferred, on motion of William Elder, until the next meeting, which was held on the 2d of December, 1824, on which day the constitution was adopted and the society formed. On motion of Hon. Samuel Nelson, seconded by Hon. Henry Stephens, six trustees were chosen, as follows: — Wm. Randall, Wm. Elder, Prosper Cravath, Salmon Jewett, Moses Kinne and Lemuel Dady. In the following spring a church was organized and the Rev. Wm. Bacon began his ministry, with a membership of only six, and a salary of $600.

Before two years had elapsed the society numbered one hundred and thirty-seven, embracing nearly one-fourth of the entire population of the village. The church edifice was dedicated January 1st, 1828. The sermon was preached by Rev. D. C. Lansing, of Auburn, from the text Gen. xxviii. 17, "This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven." In October, 1827, Rev. Luke Lyon succeeded Mr. Bacon, and remained until June, 1831.

Mr. Lyon was succeeded by Nathaniel E. Johnston, who remained until November, 1834; then he resigned, and Rev. Joseph Q. Foot became pastor. In October, 1837, Rev. Peter Lockwood succeeded Mr. Foot, and remained until July, 1842. Mr. Lockwood was succeeded by Rev. H. R. Dunham, who continued into the year 1856. He was succeeded by Rev. O. H. Seymour, who remained until 1863, when Irving L. Beman became pastor, and continued until May, 1866. After Mr. Beman the pulpit was supplied by Rev. S. F. Bacon, A. G. Hopkins, and Dr. Condit. In October, 1869, Rev. Samuel H. Howe became pastor, and remained until September, 1872. In May, 1873, he was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Street, and under his auspices the semi-centennial celebration of the church was observed in April, 1875. It was then announced by Mr. Street that the membership of the church "from six, in 1825, had reached the number on its rolls of one thousand two hundred and two." Mr. Street was succeeded by the Rev. Alfred J. Hutton, and he by the Rev. J. L. Robertson in August, 1882. The trustees are James C. Carmichael, Alonzo D. Blodgett, Calvin P. Walrad, Samuel Keator, Leavitt D. Garrison, Edward H. Brewer, Marcus McGraw, Dr. F. Hyde. J. Milne, superintendent of Sabbath-school.

The Baptist Church. — The First Baptist Church of Christ in Cortlandville was organized, and publicly recognized as such, on the 3d day of October, 1801, and was the first Christian church organized in Cortland county, then a township ten miles square in Onondaga county.

The church thus organized consisted of sixteen members, viz., males, — John Keep, Joseph Beebee, Daniel Crandall, Peleg Babcock, Cornish Messenger, Roderick Beebee, and James Wheeler: females, — Frances Keep, Rhoda Beebee, Submit Keep, Rhoda Miner, Martha Messenger, Mary Bishop, Susannah Crandall, Esther Wilcox, and Molly Wheeler. The officers were: John Keep, clerk, which office he filled for twenty-seven years, or until the church was divided; Joseph Beebee was appointed

deacon, who died about seven months subsequent to his appointment, and was succeeded by Prince Freeman, of Virgil.

The church had no settled pastor until June, 1807, when the Rev. Alfred Bennett was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, having been licensed to preach the gospel in April, 1806, by a vote of the the church, of which he became a member in April, 1804. There seems to have been no regular salary paid, or agreed to be paid, to him by the church. The first meeting-house built by this church was a wooden structure, commenced in 1811, and cost two thousand dollars; the size of which was fifty-two by thirty-six feet, with a gallery on three sides. It was dedicated in June, 1812, and was located one-half mile north of the old court-house, on the road leading from Cortland to Homer.[1]

The Rev. Alfred Bennett remained pastor of the church until the year 1827, at which time the church was divided, a portion forming the church at McGrawville, another a church at Homer, and he became the pastor of the Homer branch.

The second meeting-house built by the church was a wooden structure, and was built in the village of Cortland, on the site of the present one, at a cost of about three thousand dollars, and was dedicated October 9th, 1833. Their present brick church edifice was commenced in the autumn of 1872, and was completed in 1874, at a cost of thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars. It was dedicated February 22d, 1874. It is sixty-five feet wide and one hundred and ten feet long, with a seating capacity in the audience-room of eight hundred persons.

The following is a list of pastors, commencing in 1827: Rev. Peleg Card, from 1827 to 1830; Rev. Nathan Peck, from 1830 to 1833; Rev. Zenas Freeman, from 1833 to 1836; Rev. Ozeb Montague, from 1836 to 1840; Rev. J. P. Simmons, from 1840 to 1851; Rev. Henry Bowen, from 1851 to 1861; Rev. Thomas Goodwin, from 1861 to 1863; Rev. Andrew Wilkins, from 1863 to 1870; Rev. William N. Tower, from 1870 to 1874; Rev. William M. Kincaid became pastor in 1874, and was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. J. W. Putnam.

Trustees. — James S. Squires, E. P. Slafter, Frank Hastings, F. H. Cobb, N. Chamberlain, F. S. Capen, C. F. Brown, E. A. Fish.

E. A. Fish, superintendent of Sunday-school.

The Universalist Church. — The first Universalist Society in Cortland was formed November 16th, 1813, at the court-house. The following persons were elected trustees: Moses Hopkins, Allen Baney, John Chamberlain, David Merrick, Mead Merrill and Roger Edgcomb; John Chamberlain, clerk.

The Cayuga Association of Universalists convened at the Baptist Church in Cortland June 7th and 8th, 1815. June 19th, 1829, a meeting was held at the home of David Merrick, when a society was formed by the name of the "First Universalist Society of Homer" (Homer at that time comprised the present towns of Homer and Cortlandville). David Peck, Jacob Badgley and David Mallery were elected trustees, and Lewis Boies, clerk. Since 1833 the society has held regular annual meetings, electing its officers, etc. The present neat church-edifice was completed in 1837, at a cost of about six thousand dollars. The lót upon which it is located was donated by Calvin Bishop. Since the building of the church the organzation has been called the "First Universalist Society of Cortlandville;" and on the 9th of January, 1872, the church and society was organized, adopting the Articles of Faith of the Universalist Association of the State of New York. Its prosperity has

[1] Further details of this first church will be found in the history of the town of Homer, preceding.

varied at different periods of its history, but at all times having some faithful, earnest, Christian members, who have borne its standard through evil as well as good report. The church has secured an annual income from a legacy bequeathed to it by Roswell Craw, of the town of Virgil. The following are some of the pastors who have officiated for the society: Doolittle, Saunderson, Bullard, Strickland, Whitcomb, Brown, Corgill, Fish, Crain, Austin, Peck, H. W. Hand and Rev. Geo. Adams, who is the present pastor.

The trustees are Josiah Hart, H. J. Messenger, Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Hand, W. W. Kelsey, W. T. Blanchard.

Grace (Protestant Episcopal) Church. — In 1817 missionaries of the Protestant Episcopal Church from Manlius and Onondaga Hill officiated in Cortland county, but it was not until after the organization of a congregation at Homer, in June, 1831, that services were held at Cortlandville. The Rev. Henry Gregory, then missionary at Homer, officiated and preached in the Presbyterian church. This was probably the first public use of the liturgical worship in Cortlandville. As there was no convenient place for the people to meet, and the distance to Homer was only two miles, those who were attached to the communion usually went to the latter place to worship, and remained many years destitute of regular services.

In 1833 the Rev. H. Gregory officiated and preached once, and in 1835 eleven times. Upon the settlement of Rev. Samuel Goodale in Homer, in 1844, he held a third service on Sundays in Cortlandville, and this was continued until June, 1846. A Sunday-school also was successfully kept up the same time.

In 1847 the Rev. Geo. M. Skinner, from Homer, officiated nineteen times and conducted a bible-class. In October (26th) of that year Bishop De Lancey preached in the Presbyterian Church. The services more commonly were held in the large room of the academy, or in the stone meeting-house.

In 1848 a society was incorporated under the name of Grace Church, and asked admission into union with the convention. On account of some supposed informality in the paper, however, it was not at that time received. From November, 1848, to 1852, the Rev. Charles E. Phelps had charge of Grace Church in connection with Homer, but seldom officiated, on account of the difficulty of finding a suitable place of worship. About this time the ladies of the congregation very zealously and successfully solicited subscriptions for the building of a church edifice, but the work was postponed.

In June, 1850, the use of the court-house was obtained, and Rev. Mr. Phelps held a Sunday afternoon service there every fortnight.

In 1852 Mr. Phelps was succeeded by the Rev. Reuben Hubbard, who, in the following year officiated four or five times, the services being held in the Baptist Church.

In 1854 the missionary at McLean, the Rev. George L. Foote, assumed charge of Grace Church, and officiated at Cortlandville one-fourth of the time. By him the holy communion was first administered there in public to eleven persons.

At Easter, in 1855, the Rev. H. V. Gardner, Rector of Calvary Church, Homer, was associated with Mr. Foote in missionary services, and by this arrangement services were held, for a time, every Sunday afternoon at Cortlandville. Mr. Gardner removed from this mission in April, 1857, and in the following August the Rev. Peyton Gallagher entered upon it, officiating at Cortlandville once a fortnight,— the services being held in the session-room of the

Presbyterian Church. This arrangement after about one year was broken off by the ill-health of Mr. Gallagher, and Cortland county was left without services, except that the Rev. Edward Pidsley from McLean officiated once a month in Cortlandville.

In 1859 fresh efforts were made for the erection of a church edifice, and were crowned with complete success. Since then its pastors have been as follows, the date at which each was called only being given: —

1860, Rev. T. G. Meacham; 1863, Rev. Thomas Applegate; August, 1865, Rev. George S. Teller; July, 1868, Rev. John Boyle; January, 1869, Rev. Albert Danker; August, 1869, Rev. J. M. Benedict was called. In February, 1872, Rev. J. P. Foster was called. August, 1875, Rev. J. A. Robinson was called, and is the present rector.

The present vestry are Henry B. Hubbard, Henry L. Rogers.

Wardens, S. M. Benjamin, E. M. Hulbert, A. Mahan, Wm. Newkirk, H. C. Caney, Wesley Hooker, Chas. H. Parker, Edward D. Webb.

Catholic. — The first Catholic Church in Cortland was erected in 1855, by Rev. Mr. Callen. It was a wooden structure, and located on Washington street. The rapidly increasing Catholic population soon necessitated the building of a more spacious edifice, and the present fine church-building on North Main street was erected in 1868, by Rev. B. F. McLoghlin, who is the present pastor. The building is still unfinished, lacking a tower, which, when built, is to contain a chime of bells. The church has about one thousand members.

The First Congregational Church. — In the year 1881 steps were taken towards forming a Congregational society and the erection of a church edifice in Cortland. An active interest was soon aroused, different means were adopted for the raising of funds and the project of church building was soon fairly under way. The corner-stone of the edifice was laid on the 5th day of September, 1882, in presence of a large audience.

The exercises were opened with singing by the congregation, led by the choir, Col. F. Place, Mrs. B. T. Wright, Miss Lina Palmer, Messrs. W. D. Lord and Geo. H. Briggs.

Rev. J. A. Robinson, pastor of the Episcopal Church, read from the 16th chapter of Matthew, also the 100th Psalm, and was followed with an earnest prayer by Rev. J. W. Putnam, pastor of the Baptist Church, after which Rev. J. L. Robertson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, gave out the hymn, which was sung by the congregation.

Rev. C. M. Tyler, pastor of the Congregational Church of Ithaca, delivered an interesting and appropriate address.

Mr. Peter Burns, of Syracuse, placed the corner-stone in position in the southwest corner of the building.

Rev. H. T. Sell, the pastor of the church, read the following list of articles, which were inclosed in the tin box placed in the cavity in the stone: "A copy of the Bible; copies of recent date of the *Democrat*, *Standard*, *News* and *Congregationalist;* proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Cortland county, from 1814 to 1825, as published in the *News;* manuscript history of the church, including names of the officers and members of the church, and of the superintendent, teachers and members of the Sabbath-school; names of the architect, builder and building committee of the church; photograph of the pastor, Rev. H. T. Sell; Roy's Manual of Congregationalism; and a collection of coins of the present time."

The exercises were closed with singing by the congregation and benediction by Rev. C. M. Tyler.

Rev. Mr. Sell has remained in charge of

the church from the first. The trustees are: George B. Jones, James H. Blanchard, Frank Place, Edward H. Bates, Alonzo W. Gates, L. Melvin Loop, Ira W. Watkins, Geo. W. Davenport, R. C. Tillinghast. A. E. Buck, superintendent of Sunday-school.

SCHOOLS.

Institutions for the education of the young have always occupied a prominent place in the history of Cortland village, and the school system has gradually and in conformity to the needs of the community grown from the smallest beginning to its present prosperous and commendable position. The dates of the building of the early common school-houses we have been unable to obtain; but we may rest assured that while much of the site of the village was still forest-covered, the children of the scattered inhabitants found a place where they could receive the rudiments of education. So active and interested in this important subject were the early inhabitants that about ten years after the village had begun to assume its character, namely, in the year 1828, an educational institution was founded in its midst, which had an honorable and useful career.

In April, 1828, a statute was passed incorporating the "Cortland Village Female Seminary." The act declared that the "Design and object of this incorporation is the establishment and support of a seminary for the education of females." The payment of ten dollars was the price of membership and this gave the right to vote for trustees. In the same year (1828) a school was opened in the large building then standing a little back from the street on the lot now occupied by the Taylor Hall block. Oliver Brewster, then recently arrived in the place from Onondaga, took the management of the boarding hall, which was kept in the building. Miss Jane Ingersoll, of Springfield, Mass., was made principal of the school, aided by Miss Brewster (afterward the wife of Samuel B. Woolworth, secretary of the Board of Regents), Miss McDonald of Ithaca, teacher of drawing, and Miss Dutton, of New Haven, teacher of music. It was an accomplished faculty and soon gave the school an exalted standing and an extensive reputation. Among the ladies who received their education at this institution and who subsequently reached distinguished positions in married life were Miss Walbridge, of Lockport, who became the wife of Gov. Washington Hunt; Miss Noxon, wife of Hon. Geo. F. Comstock, of Syracuse; Jane R. Polhemus, of Auburn, wife of Hon. Henry S. Randall; Ellen Birdseye, of Pompey, the wife of Charles Wheaton, of Syracuse; Miss Earl, of Onondaga, wife of Hon. Vivus W. Smith, of Syracuse; Emily Wood, of Syracuse, wife of Mr. Brackett, and many others. Among the daughters of Cortland who attended the institution Mr. Ballard recalled the names of Emeline Allen, Maria Allen, Antoinette Randall, Wilhelmina Randall, Lucy Maria Randall, Harriet Randall, Ursula Webb, Helen Ballard, Dolly Ann Lyman, Marette Elder, Venette Stephens, Elvira Goodyear, Blendina Miller, Annette Edgcomb and Caroline Blair. For a number of years the institution was self-sustaining and it exerted a salutary influence upon the social life of the village.

Cotemporaneous with this seminary a "classical school for young men" was opened in the building afterward occupied by the Cortlandville Academy, under the principalship of J. N. Bellows, a brother of the celebrated divine, of New York city. The trustees of this school were Roswell Randall, Miles Goodyear, Edward Allen, Asahel Lyman, William Bartlit, Gilmore Kinney, Jonathan I. Wood. The advertisement of this institution announced that young men "were fitted for the store, or

the counting-room, or for college, or in the art of teaching, accompanied with lectures upon scientific subjects. 'Ideas, not words,' is the motto of this school." This institution was a practical success and productive of much good. The existence of two such schools in the little village, which were well supported and ably conducted, is ample evidence of the interest felt by the people in the cause of education during this period.

The "Cortland Female Seminary" had a prosperous existence of about ten years, when its splendid career was closed to make way for a still more extensive educational institution — the old academy. The population of the village was then about 1,500; the academy of Homer was at the height of its long and eminent career, and the want of an academic institution in Cortland was deeply felt, both for the accommodation of the public and the reputation of the county seat. The first meeting for this purpose was held on the 27th of November, 1841; this was followed by others, at which negotiations relative to the site and other matters were discussed during the year 1842. The first report made to the regents of the university bears date the 3d day of January, 1843, and gives the condition of the Cortlandville academy up to the 6th of December, 1842, the close of its first term, as follows: — The value of the ground and building, $2,700. The number of volumes in the library, 206, and value thereof, $170.69. Philosophical apparatus, value, $154.50.

The first faculty of the academy was composed of Joseph R. Dixon, principal; Henry E. Ranney, assistant teacher; Miss Catharine Hamlin, principal of female department; Miss Fanny Nelson, assistant preceptress. One hundred and twenty-five students attended the first term. Such was the comparatively humble beginning of this afterward prosperous and respected institution. In after years it reached a high standard of merit and its patronage was so liberal as to require extensive additions to the building.

Pursuant to an arrangement, the use of the academy lot was conveyed to the State to form a part of the Normal School grounds on the condition that the academic department be maintained in the new school, and that children of parents and wards of guardians residing within the bounds of the corporation should receive their tuition free of charge. Accordingly, early in 1869 the academy was closed and the building removed.

The State Normal School.— The State Normal and Training School in Cortland was established under ch. 466, laws of 1866. The corner-stone, which is on the northern front of the building, bears on its eastern face this inscription:—

"Laid by M. W. John L. Lewis, P. G. M., Sept. 17, A. L. 5867."

And on the northern face the following:

"State Normal School, erected by the village of Cortland, A. D. 1867. Charles Foster, president. Frederick Ives, Aaron Sager, J. C. Carmichael, B. B. Woodworth, trustees: H. M. Wilcox, architect; J. U. Greene, builder."

Buildings and Grounds. — The building is made of brick; its extreme length east and west is 238 feet; the width of the center is 85 feet; there are three stories above the basement. The building was designed to accommodate boarders, the third story containing dormitories. The second story contained school-rooms and two suits of rooms for teachers. The first story contained in the center of the building an office, a library, a parlor, a large dining-room, and rooms for the janitor; school-rooms for the schools of practice are situated on the east and west ends of this floor. The heating apparatus was for steam. The boilers exploded February 20th, 1870, and stoves were used to heat the building until



JAMES HARMON HOOSE.

1875, when furnaces took the place of the stoves. The boarding department was discontinued after a few years; the dining-room and the teachers' rooms were converted into school-rooms. The Legislature made, in 1879, an appropriation to repair the building and to enlarge the grounds on the east. The library was moved at this time into the spacious room that was formerly the dining-room. The building, grounds, and other property belonging to the school, cost the corporation of the village of Cortland about $98,000.

Library, Cabinets and Apparatus. — The school received the library and apparatus that belonged to the Cortlandville Academy. Large additions have been made to them from time to time; the Legislature also made, in 1871, an appropriation of $5,000 to increase the library and apparatus. Mrs. Henry S. Randall donated, in 1880, the valuable private cabinet of geological and mineralogical specimens which her husband had collected; this cabinet occupies a large room in the third story of the building and is known as the Randall Cabinet. Dr. Thomas B. Stowell, of the chair of science of the school, has selected a valuable collection of apparatus. The library has an extensive collection of valuable books. Normal students enjoy rare opportunities in having access to the library, to cabinets, and to the apparatus of the school.

Organization of the Local Board. — Hon. Abram B. Weaver, Superintendent of Public Instruction, appointed, December 16th, 1868, nine citizens of Cortland to be the local board of the school. These gentlemen were Hon. Henry S. Randall, Hon. R. Holland Duell, Dr. Frederick Hyde, Hon. Horatio Ballard, and Messrs. Charles C. Taylor, Norman Chamberlain, William Newkirk, Henry Brewer, and Arnold Stafford. Mr. Randall was made by the board chairman, Mr. Duell secretary, and Mr. Taylor treasurer. Mr. Stafford died June 27th, 1872, and Mr. Robert Bruce Smith was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Randall died August 12th, 1876, and Mr. James S. Squires was appointed to the vacancy; Dr. Hyde was appointed chairman of the board at this time. Mr. Ballard died October 8th, 1878, and Mr. James C. Carmichael was appointed to the vacancy. The officers of the board now are: Dr. Hyde president, Mr. Norman Chamberlain secretary, and Mr. Taylor treasurer. Mr. Newkirk succeeded Mr. Duell as secretary, and Mr. Chamberlain succeeded Mr. Newkirk.

Opening of the School-Faculty. — The school opened March 3d, 1869, with the following board of instructors: James H. Hoose, principal, science and history of education; Norman F. Wright, ancient languages; Frank S. Capen, mathematics; Thomas B. Stowell, natural sciences; Martha Roe, superintendent of training school, teacher of methods; Helen E. M. Babcock, history, rhetoric, geography; Martha E. Couch, modern languages; Marianne Bates, vocal music, four hours daily; Lemoyne A. Hoose, drawing, four hours daily; Helen K. Hubbard, principal of intermediate department; Margaret Hunter, principal of primary department; Charles A. Fowler (temporary), part time, assistant intermediate department.

Teachers who have been connected with the school:[1] —

James H. Hoose, A. M., Ph. D., Principal, mental science and philosophy of education, March 3d, 1869.

Norman F. Wright, A. M., Latin and Greek, March 3d, 1869 – January 30th, 1877.

Thomas B. Stowell, A. M., Ph. D., natural sciences, March 3d, 1869.

[1] The dates refer respectively to the beginning and close of service.

Frank S. Capen, A. M., mathematics, March 3d, 1869.

Martha Roe, methods, and superintendent of training school, March 3d, 1869.

Helen E. M. Babcock, history, rhetoric, geography, until 1870, then modern languages, March 3d, 1869–July 2d, 1872.

Mrs. Martha E. Couch, modern languages, March 3d, 1869–July 20th, 1869.

Marianne Bates, vocal music, March 3d, 1869–July 20th, 1869.

Mrs. Lemoyne A. Hoose, drawing, March 3d, 1869–July 20th, 1869.

Helen K. Hubbard, principal and critic in intermediate department, March 3d, 1869–July 2d, 1872.

Margaret Hunter, principal and critic in primary department, March 3d, 1869–February 1st, 1870.

Charles A. Fowler, assistant in intermediate department, March 3d, 1869–July 1st, 1870.

Mary Morton, drawing, September 8th, 1869–January 28th, 1873.

Mrs. O. S. Douglass, vocal music, September 8th, 1869–October 1st, 1869.

Mary F. Hall, critic in intermediate department, September 8th, 1869–July 1st, 1870.

Mrs. Helen D. Kendall, critic in primary department, September 8th, 1869–July 1st, 1870.

Mary F. Hendrick, reading, elocution, gymnastics, rhetoric, English literature, September 8th, 1869.

Mary Marsh, vocal music, October 1st, 1869–January 28th, 1872.

Mrs. Helen M. Smith, principal and critic in primary department, February 16th, 1870–September 14th, 1870.

Amanda J. Hopkins, critic in intermediate department until September 24th, 1873, then principal and critic, September 14th, 1870–June 27th, 1876.

Sarah M. Sutton, English grammar and history, September 14th, 1870–January 27th, 1874.

Mrs. Theodore Perkins, principal and critic in primary department, September 14th, 1870–January 31st, 1871.

Mary E. Lester, principal and critic in primary department, February 15th, 1871–January 28th, 1873.

Julia H. Willis, critic in primary department, February 15th, 1871–January 20th, 1872.

James H. Shults, principal of academic department until September, 1877, then department of English, physics and Greek, first time, September 6th, 1871–July 1st, 1873; second time, September 6th, 1876–July 2d, 1878.

Emily E. Cole, principal and critic in primary department, February 14th, 1872–January 23d, 1883.

Clara E. Booth, modern languages, September 4th, 1872.

Mary A. Hubbard, principal and critic in intermediate department, September 4th, 1872, died September 24th, 1873.

Helen P. Eels, critic in primary department, February 12th, 1873–July 1st, 1873.

Sara A. Saunders, critic in primary department, September 3d, 1873.

Henrietta Van Ness, critic in intermediate department, September 24th, 1873–June 30th, 1874.

M. Anzolette Drake, vocal music and drawing, September 3d, 1873–January 19th, 1874.

James M. Milne, principal academic department, then Latin and Greek, first time, September 3d, 1873–June 27th, 1876; second time, September 5th, 1877.

Mrs. E. P. Halbert, vocal music and drawing, January 19th, 1874.

Samuel J. Sornberger, Ph. M., English, science, Latin, first time, September 2d, 1874–June 27th, 1876; second time, September 4th, 1878.

Elizabeth Rase, critic in intermediate department until September 6th, 1878, then principal and critic, September 2d, 1874.

Mrs. Lottie T. Corlew, critic in intermediate department, September 6th, 1876–May 2d, 1882.

Josephine Folger, critic in intermediate department, May 2d, 1882–June 27th, 1882.

Ellen J. Pearne, critic in intermediate department, September 6th, 1882.

Mary L. Roberts, principal and critic in primary department, January 23d, 1883.

Organization of the School. — The school is organized into two departments; one is that of theory, and the other is that of practice. The department of theory comprises three courses of study. The elementary English course extends over two two years; the advanced English course extends over three years; and the classical course extends over four years. The last year of each course is devoted to professional work; this work includes the history and philosophy of education and of teaching and practice in the art of teaching. This department of practice consists of the thoroughly organized school of about 300 pupils whose ages extend from five years upwards; these pupils are classified into ten grades, the lowest being designated as the first. There are a few pupils in the school who have passed out of the tenth grade and do not rank as normal students; these pupils are classified as academic pupils and recite in normal classes. Students must be sixteen years of age, at least, in order to be registered as normal students. Tuition and rent of text-books are free to normal students. The department of practice is under the supervision of the teacher of theories of practice; while the department is under the immediate personal supervision of four experienced and capable critics who devote all their attention to the work of the teachers-in-training. The principal of the school devotes directly, also, much of his attention to the welfare of this department of the school. Theories of teaching are tested, observations are recorded, and the teachers-in-training have the benefits of all results obtained from these professional studies. Graduating classes visit various systems of public schools in the cities of the State in order to inspect them professionally.

Attendance of Normal Students. — The following table exhibits the yearly attendance of normal students from the date of opening of the school to the close of the fifteenth annual report of the local board:—

	YEAR	Number of Students	Average Attendance	Average Age	
				Males	Females
1	March 3, 1[illegible], to October 1, 1869.	110	53	19	17
2	October 1, 1869, to October 1, 1870.	322	123	19	19
3	October 1, 1870, to October 1, 1871.	401	162	20	19
4	October 1, 1871, to October 1, 1872.	370	168	19	19
5	October 1, 1872, to October 1, 1873.	390	16[illegible]	20	19
6	October 1, 1873, to October 1, 1874.	[illegible]	177	20	19
7	October 1 1874, to October 1, 1875.	370	179	[illegible]	22
8	October 1, 1875, to October 1, 1[illegible]	378	157	20	20
9	October 1, 1876, to October 1, 1877.	398	177	20	19
10	October 1, 1877, to October 1, 1878.	401	197	21	20
11	October 1, 1878, to October 1, 1879.	324	153	21	20
12	October 1, 1879, to October 1, 1880.	449	220	21	20
13	October 1, 1880, to October 1, 1881.	[illegible]4	213	19 7	19
14	October 1, 1881, to October 1, 1882.	498	2[illegible]	19 [illegible]4	19 11
15	October 1, 1882, to October 1, 1883.	5[illegible]4	275	20	19 10

The following brief address which Dr. Hoose made to the citizens at the close of commencement exercises, January 22d, 1884, gives a concise statement of the prosperity and condition of the school:—

These exercises close fifteen years of history of the Cortland Normal School. Two thousand three hundred and forty-one different normal students have been connected with the school in this time. These students have represented nearly all the counties in the State.

The records of the school show that 449 normal students were enrolled during the year which ended Oct. 1st, 1880; the average age of the

ladies was twenty years, and that of the gentlemen was twenty-one years; that 364 normal students were enrolled for the year which ended Oct. 1st, 1881; the average age of the ladies being nineteen, and that of the gentlemen being about nineteen and one-half; that 498 were enrolled for the year which ended Oct. 1st, 1882. 150 of this number entering in September, 1882; the average age of the women being a little above nineteen years, and that of the men being nearly twenty; that 504 normal students were enrolled for the year which ended Oct. 1st, 1883; the average age of the women being about nineteen and one-fifth years, and that of the men being twenty years.

The average age of the normal student indicates the maturity of mind, the scholarship, and the experience in teaching which students possess; it indicates also the value of the school when it is considered what the students can do as teachers in the public schools of the State. The higher the average age the more valuable to the State is the Normal School. Hence a high average age of the students is of greater importance, if possible, to the purposes of the school than the number in attendance.

Including this present class, 418 normal students have been graduated. These graduates occupy places of importance and of prominence in the educational ranks of the country. Our graduates are in demand for those positions which require superior qualifications of scholarship and of executive ability; they are commanding marked success as teachers and as men and women. Our graduates take high rank in all higher institutions where they enter and pursue higher branches.

Estimates made for the first ten years of the school show that over fifty per cent. of our normal students teach more or less during any given year of their attendance. Inasmuch as a large majority of the students attend school more than one year, it follows that nearly all normal students teach more or less in the public schools of the State; and very many teach years. These facts show that our school is the center of great influence in the commonwealth.

In order to exhibit the rank of the Cortland Normal School among the Normal Schools of the State, the following statistics of attendance are presented from the published report for the year which ended Oct. 1st, 1882.

Albany Normal School enrolled 401 normal students; Brockport, 407; Buffalo, 261; Cortland, 498; Fredonia, 180; Geneseo, 461; Oswego, 394; and Potsdam, 406. Cortland outranked them all, and the attendance was larger for 1883 than it was for 1882.

These statistics demonstrate the wisdom which has controlled the administration of the local board since the school began its history. The board has proceeded on the theory that the citizens of the State, who pay the taxes which support the school, demand in return men and women who can teach better schools because they have been here; that the public demands men and women of sterling character, who are loyal to their duties; that it is the business of the school to give to its students these qualifications. History bears all honor to the board for the success which has crowned its administrations.

Memorandum of History.—The Cortland Normal School has had a career that will go down into history as one of the most remarkable in the annals of educational history in the United States. Hon. Abram B. Weaver was Superintendent of Public Instruction when the school opened in 1869. Hon. Neil Gilmour succeeded him in the office in April, 1874, and he was succeeded in office in April, 1883, by Hon. W. B. Ruggles. The school opened March 3d, 1869, and flourished from the beginning, because the local board established at first a firm and conscientious purpose to serve only the best interests of the school; the board has never deviated from this purpose.

It began to appear in 1876 that the superintendent of public instruction had conceived a purpose to control the normal school system of the State. This purpose revealed itself towards the Cortland Normal School in a series of overt acts which were calculated to destroy the unity and harmony of the administration of the school, and to wrest from the board its legal prerogatives of authority.

The superintendent's first overt act was a charge against the loyalty of Dr. Thomas B. Stowell, of the chair of science in the school; this charge was, in August, 1876, to the principal, who replied to the superintendent that his charge had no foundation in fact. The second overt act was the manner in which the superintendent filled the vacancy in the local board caused by the death of Mr. Randall, which occurred in August, 1876. The board followed its previous custom and recommended to the superintendent a suitable person to fill the vacancy; but he appointed in September, 1876, without notice and without explanation, another gentleman, Mr. J. S. Squires. No divided vote had ever been cast in the deliberations of the board before the advent of this appointee. The third act was a vain effort to secure the resignation from the board of Hon. R. H. Duell.

The fourth act of the superintendent was a fruitless effort, made in 1877, to compel the board to nominate to him, against its best judgment, a certain gentleman for the chair of Latin and Greek, then vacant. Pending the confirmation of the nominee of the board, an attempt was made to cause the retirement from the board of its president, Dr. Hyde; failing in the attempt, the nominee of the board, Prof. James M. Milne, was confirmed June 5th, 1877. The sixth act was an extraordinary order issued June 12th, 1877, directing the board to renominate to him for re-appointment all the members of the faculty. There being no vacancies, the board sent to him a memorandum of the faculty as it then existed; he assumed this statement to be a recommendation, and purported to reconfirm, July 5th, the appointments, attaching to his confirmation conditions not provided for by statute; chief among these conditions was the clause: "Said approval to continue in force during the pleasure of the local board and the superintendent." The seventh act took place in a meeting of the principals of the Normal Schools of the State, convened by his order, and held at Albany in December, 1877. The superintendent presided; he alluded to several personal matters, and said among other things, that the principals "must obey him." The eighth act was his manner of appointing Mr. J. C. Carmichael to fill the vacancy in the board caused by the death of Mr. Ballard, which occurred October 8th, 1878; the appointment was made October 28th with no consultation with the board. The superintendent continued to 1880 to manifest his displeasure with the board and with its administration, because neither it nor the principal of the school could be won by favor or by fear to deviate in the least from the plain line of clearly defined duties which they legally and morally owed to the State. The superintendent was a candidate to be his own successor in office, in April, 1880. The principal of the school and members of the board expressed a preference for Hon. John I. Gilbert, who was also a candidate for the position; but Mr. Gilbert was unsuccessful, and the former superintendent was reinstated.

The superintendent made, in 1880, his ninth effort to gain control of the school. He sent, June 28th of that year, an autograph order to Dr. Hoose, directing the latter to send to him by July 6th his "peremptory resignation" as principal of the school. The board was composed at this time of Messrs. Hyde, Duell, Taylor, Chamberlain, Newkirk, Brown and Smith; and Messrs. Squires and Carmichael. The first seven mentioned members of the board, constituting the majority, claimed by law a voice in selecting teachers for the school; they requested the specific charges against the principal; the superintendent replied, July 6th, that "there are no charges" and

that he virtually proposed to act independently of the board. Dr. Hoose refused, July 8th, to resign; the superintendent withdrew, July 12th, his approval of the employment of Dr. Hoose, that had been given by him in July, 1877; the board by act, on July 17th, refused to concur with the superintendent. August 4th he purported to appoint another principal to the school; August 7th the board refused to recognize this appointee, and offered to agree with the superintendent on a case to construe the statute, and carry the matter to the courts; the superintendent offered, August 19th, to consent to carry the case to the courts, provided the board would first give to him the control of the school, and threatened to close the school in case the board did not comply with his terms. August 26th the board refused to comply with his terms. The term opened Sept. 1st.; the appointee of the superintendent appeared at the building and demanded possession of it, in the name of the superintendent; the board refused to recognize him as principal, and directed Dr. Hoose and the teachers to open the school; his appointee then ordered all the teachers to withdraw from the building as he retired to his office at the Messenger House. The faculty was composed at that time of Dr. Hoose, Dr. Thos. B. Stowell, Prof. S. J. Sornberger, Mrs. E. P. Halbert, Misses E. Rase, S. A. Saunders, E. E. Cole; and Prof. F. S. Capen, Prof. J. M. Milne, Miss M. Roe, Miss M. F. Hendrick, Miss C. E. Booth, and Mrs. Corlew. The first seven mentioned teachers obeyed the orders of the board; the vacancies in the faculty were filled immediately; the list of these teachers who taught, were:— D. Eugene Smith, Wm. C. Bennett, Helen E. Bradford, Gardner Fuller, R. S. Bingham, Kate M. Sornberger, Helen K. Hoose, Herbert M. Hill, Hiram J. Messenger, Mary A. Knapp, William L. Bates, E. M. Ladd.

The superintendent purported to remove from the school, Sept. 2d, those six teachers who remained with the principal, obedient to the concurrent authority of the board, but they continued to teach, nevertheless; this was his tenth overt act against the school. The next was his order to close the school, issued Sept. 7th. The board refused to close the school, or to allow it to be closed by others. The twelfth act of the superintendent was his application at the special term of the Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus to compel the board to accept his construction of the statute. The case was argued Oct. 27th, 1880; the decision was not rendered until Jan. 4th, 1881; it sustained the position of the superintendent, although the final service was not made upon the board until Feb. 7th, 1881. The school continued to flourish from Sept. 1st, 1880, notwithstanding the attacks of the superintendent, who also refused to certify to any of the current expense accounts of the school for the term. A class of eighteen normal students was graduated January 18th, 1881, but the superintendent refused to prepare diplomas for the graduates.

Under the orders of the court the superintendent took sole charge of the school Feb. 7th, 1881. The board carried the case to the General Term of the Supreme Court; it was argued May 13th, the decision was handed down Sept. 20th, 1881, and affirmed the decision of the court below. The board carried the case to the Court of Appeals Dec. 20th, 1881. January 31st, 1881, the superintendent argued in court on his motion to to throw the case out of court on the ground that the board having obeyed the courts below had lost its right of appeal. The court denied, Feb. 7th, his motion. The case was argued before the Court of Appeals March 24th, Hon. Samuel Hand appearing for the board. April 18th the court handed

down its decision, reversing the courts below. April 26th, 1882, Dr. Hoose and the six teachers thus sent out by the superintendent re-entered the school under command of the courts. The superintendent vainly appealed, in May, to the Legislature to enact a law giving to him absolute control of the Normal Schools of the State. He then sought in vain, in June, July, and August, 1882, the Chancellor of the Regents to unite with him to remove the board from the Cortland Normal School. In Oct., 1882, Miss Martha Saltsman, of Harford, Cortland county, began an action for a mandamus to compel the superintendent to grant to her a diploma, she having graduated January 18th, 1881. In December the superintendent prepared diplomas for her, and for the ballance of her class. He certified in January, 1883, to the current expense accounts of the school and for a portion of the salaries due for the time when he had possession of the school. Measures were instituted to collect from the State the balance of salaries due to April 26th, 1882, and the Board of of Claims awarded to the teachers in January, 1884, the amount of salary due for said time.

This controversy was watched with deepest interest by friends of education everywhere, and public sentiment generally sustained the local board, and those teachers who remained under the board. The business men of Cortland continued to furnish the supplies which were necessary to meet the needs of the school during the time that the superintendent refused to certify to the bills; all of these bills have been paid. Among the citizens of Cortland village who sustained the board were Hon. A. P. Smith, Mr. D. F. Wallace, Major A. Sager, Mr. Morgan L. Webb, Mr. H. Hubbard, and Mr. George Warren.

The school is in a highly prosperous state, notwithstanding this controversy. The self-sacrifice, devotion, firmness and perseverance of the majority-seven of the board and of their sympathizers have elevated to a higher plane the tenure and independence of the position of the teachers, and the dignity and worth of the profession of teaching, and have given a new and illustrious example of manhood defending the freedom and rights of American citizens. The legal points which the controversy established are the following (89 New York Reports, pp. 11–12):—

"The superintendent of public instruction has no power to remove the principal of a normal school established under the act of 1866 (Chap. 466, Laws of 1866), without the concurrence of the local board.

"The provision of said act (§4) declaring that the 'employment' of teachers in said schools shall be subject to the approval of the superintendent, refers to the act of hiring. When the approval is once given, the contract of employment is complete, and the teacher can only be discharged by the authority in whom the power to employ is vested, *i. e.*, by the concurrent act of the local board and the superintendent.

"It is not within the power of the superintendent, by annexing conditions to his approval, to change the law regulating the discharge of teachers of these schools.

"The local board of a normal school employed one H. as principal, which employment was approved by the superintendent 'to continue in force during the pleasure of the board and the superintendent;' thereafter the superintendent withdrew his approval and directed the local board to recommend another principal, and upon its declining so to do, made an appointment himself which the board refused to recognize. In proceedings by *mandamus* to compel such recognition, *held*, that the superintendent had no authority to attach to his approval the qualification stated; that, notwithstanding the action of the superintendent, H. remained principal, and the refusal of the board 'to make a new appointment was not an omission to discharge its duties' within the meaning of the amendatory act of 1869 (Chap. 18, Laws of

1869) and so did not authorize the superintendent to discharge such duties."

CORTLAND VILLAGE POSTAL SERVICE.

It is ordinarily a difficult matter to give a detailed record of the post-office of any given village, as the only documents from which such a record can be made are on file in the Post-office Department at Washington. An exception may, however, be made of the Cortland village office, owing to the enterprise of Wm. H. Clark, proprietor of the Cortland *Standard*, who obtained data from the department records at the time the office was removed into the new Standard building on the night of April 2d, 1883, and printed therefrom in his journal a history of the post-office from its first establishment. From that record we compile the following: —

The first postmaster of Cortland village was Oliver Wiswell, one of the earliest lawyers in the place, who resided where W. R. Randall now lives, and kept the office in a front room. His term of office extended to July 25th, 1817, when Roswell Randall succeeded him, and continued to serve for about four years, keeping the office in his store, on the corner now occupied by the Keator block, being followed by Samuel Nelson, appointed May 11th, 1822. This gentleman resided where Mr. F. Ives now lives, corner of Main and Mill streets, and, as near as we can learn, kept the post-office in his house. The post-office of that time was a very small affair compared with the one of the present, as persons were considered lucky who received one letter a month, and in order to get that had often to pay as high as twenty-five cents. The mail was brought from Syracuse by a four-horse stage, the horn announcing its arrival being "tooted" vigorously from the upper end of Main street to Mr. Nelson's door. The arrival of the one mail and the departure of the same were the only enlivening events of the day. Postmaster Nelson afterwards became, first, chief justice of the State of New York, and, later on, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. He also received the degree of LL. D. from Columbia College. He died in 1872 in Cooperstown, at the age of 82. Charles Lynde succeeded him, the date of his appointment being June 2d, 1823. Mr. Lynde was a merchant and kept the office in his store, which was on Main street, on the spot where Mrs. Thomas Keator now resides. He had charge of it until Dec. 20th, 1824, when his brother, John Lynde, took his place. The latter gentleman was a doctor, and kept, as was the custom then, the post-office and his business office together. He lived about half way between Cortland and Homer. He remained in office up to April 28th, 1825, when Roswell Randall was appointed for the second time. His office was in the old Eagle block, which stood on South Main street, and was absorbed in the new Squires block. He, in turn, was succeeded by Canfield Marsh, appointed July 28th, 1830, who was a manufacturer of and dealer in hats. His store was an old wooden building situated where Union Hall block now stands.

About this time the name of the village was changed by dropping the "u" from "Courtlandt," making it "Cortlandt Village." Richard Scouten, the proprietor of the old Eagle Tavern, was the next postmaster, his date of appointment being Nov. 14th, 1839. He kept the post-office in the tavern, which at that time was two stories high. A third story was added shortly afterward, and in January, 1862, the whole structure was burnt down, Isaac Fairchilds owning it at the time. The post-office, however, before this event had passed into the hands of Joel B. Hibbard Feb. 24th, 1841. Mr. Hibbard was a partner of Andrew Dickson, who afterwards had charge of

the office himself, and kept a general country store in a brick block built by Messrs. Bishop & Edgcomb, on the site of the present Keator block. The next postmaster whose name is on record was Tercius Eels, appointed May 15th, 1841, who was a merchant and kept his store and the office in a long, low, white building, afterwards occupied by Charles W. Collins, where Garrison's block now stands. Danforth Merrick, who kept the "Cortland Tavern" (on the site of the Cortland House), took the post-office temporarily, and kept it in his hotel from May 24th, 1842, till Sept. 6th, 1842, when Andrew Dickson, before mentioned, took charge of it, removing it again to the site of the present Keator block. Jehiel Taylor, a mechanic, came next, his appointment bearing date April 18th, 1849, and transferred the office to a small wing attached to the building where Eels had kept it. Upon the expiration of Taylor's term of office, Hiram Crandall was appointed and filled the place till March 19th, 1861. He first kept the office near where the National Bank of Cortland now is, and afterwards removed it to where Mahan's block is at present located, Nos. 9 and 11 Court street. This building was a small wooden structure, about twenty feet square, formerly an old justice's office, and which was afterwards moved up to No. 92 Adams street, where it is now occupied by John Van Rensselaer. Here we find the first record of a separate building being used for post-office purposes alone, unassociated with any other business or profession.

At this time, too, the "t" at the end of "Cortlandt" was dropped, making the name of the office read "Cortland Village."

With the incoming of a Republican administration, on the 19th of March, 1861, Horace A. Jarvis was appointed, and held the position for over seventeen years (the longest term of any postmaster in the place), up to July 13th, 1878. He commenced where the gas office now is, in the rear of the National Bank of Cortland, but shortly afterward removed to where the office was before its change to the Standard building (in the building on the corner of West Court and Main streets). Mr. Jarvis was the first to introduce the glass and lock-boxes. James A. Nixon, the present incumbent, was appointed July 13th, 1878, and has since made many and marked improvements. The name of the office was still further changed, Sept. 23d, 1880, by dropping the word "Village," leaving it plain "Cortland," as it will probably always continue.

The new location in the Standard building is eminently fitted for accommodating the office, combining as it does all the conveniences of steam heat, good ventilation, plenty of light and an abundance of room. The present apartment has two entrances on Tompkins street in addition to the one upon Main, thus providing for the prevention of the crowd and rush usually attendant upon the delivery of the mails.

The business sections of the office are inclosed by glass, including the delivery department, which is in the form of an elongated bay, the whole constructed in a convenient and appropriate shape for the rapid dispatch of business. On the extreme right is an entrance into the business room, and on the same side are the Yale lock-boxes, 229 in number. Mr. Nixon's administration of the office gives excellent satisfaction to the community.

The Professions. — Readers of the general county history embodied in preceding chapters are already familiar with the records of the legal and the medical professions of this county. The former has contributed many eminent men to the county, by far the larger portion of them having, naturally, been residents of this

village. For the details of their professional lives, their labors performed in public office and in other fields to which they have been called, the reader is referred to the chapter devoted to that profession. The medical profession, too, has been especially honored, and is at the present time, by the names of many who have devoted their lives to the healing of mankind in this county, and who occupy positions of high distinction in their chosen profession. These will be found properly treated in their appropriate place and hence need not be further referred to in this connection.

The Dental Profession of Cortland Village. — The first dentist in the village of Cortland was Dr. Levi R. Gleason, who came here in about the year 1852. He was a native of the town of Virgil, was an excellent operator and a worthy citizen. He remained about ten years and sold out his business and office appliances to Dr. F. O. Hyatt, a native of Otsego county. Dr. Hyatt came into the county in 1844, locating first in Marathon. He received his dental education in Towanda, Pa., under Dr. McIntosh and L. B. Hyatt, and began practicing first in Marathon in 1848. He then took up his residence in Cortland as stated. He soon gained an enviable business and a reputation as a first-class operator.

Dr. Hyatt is, aside from his profession, an artist of recognized ability, possessing genius and talent of a high order, especially as a portrait painter. Although he never had instruction in the art, some of his works evince merits that entitle them to rank with those of our eminent artists. His first attempt was a portrait of his brother, C. S. Hyatt. The distinctive features of excellent portraiture were so apparent in this work that he has since received commissions from a large number of prominent men, both in Cortland county and at a distance. In the fire on the corner of West Court and Main streets, May 24th, 1884, Dr. Hyatt lost about one hundred and fifty choice paintings, besides his dental rooms.

Dr. Monroe Frank came to Cortland about 1868, and not long afterward Dr. A. H. Matson, now a leading dentist of Syracuse, located here. They remained but a few years. Messrs. Pettingill & Spencer then opened rooms and remained in the business about nine years. They were succeeded by Dr. Todd, who was a student in Dr. Hyatt's office. He continued four or five years when he sold to H. G. & C. E. Ingalls, who have now carried on a successful practice about twelve years.

George L. Holden came to Cortland from McGrawville and practiced a few years, when he died, in 1877. Dr. G. H. Smith came also from McGrawville and studied with Dr. Hyatt from 1871, and in 1879 formed a partnership with him. He is still here. G. W. Hull has enjoyed a successful practice here for a number of years, and L. T. White, also, who has been in practice a few years.

The Cortland Water Company. — The water drawn from the numerous wells of Cortland village has always been of an excellent character. These wells were dug through the gravelly soil and stoned up in the ordinary manner, until the invention and patenting of the well known driven well by Mr. Suggett, of Cortland village. Since that event driven wells almost without number have been put down in the village, the soil being especially well adapted for the use of that device. Not only this, but the same plan was adopted some years since as a means of supplying the village with water for extinguishing fires and other public purposes. Driven wells were sunk of several inches calibre and four or more of them connected with one discharge pipe at the top, to which the suction of a fire engine could be attached. These wells

have served their purpose effectively and have been put down on most of the prominent street corners. But the recent rapid growth of the village and the distance of the wells from each other, with constantly increasing danger from fires, has made it apparent that some other and more extensive system of water works was one of the imperative needs of the place. The subject was often agitated, as we have already stated, of bringing water into the village from Otter creek, and other less promising plans have been suggested, but without practical effect, until the year of this writing (1884), when the question of giving the village an abundant supply of pure water has undoubtedly reached its solution, through the organization of the Cortland Water Works Company. This is a private corporation which entered into a contract with the firm of Hinds, Moffat & Co., of Watertown, to construct and equip a water system on the following general plan :—

First, To erect a pump house to be located at the Otter creek springs and to place therein pumps known as the "Worthington," of sufficient capacity to pump to summit of court-house hill 1,200 gallons per minute, with proper boiler, feed pump, connections, etc. The land to be purchased and a good and sufficient basin to pump from prepared.

Second, A ten-inch pipe to run from pump to reservoir.

Third, Reservoir to be of iron, to be forty feet high and forty feet in diameter.

Fourth, Mains starting from reservoir with ten-inch pipe running down Prospect street to Messenger House corner *via* Tompkins street, mains to run from the Wickwire factory on South Main to Grant street, Port Watson street, to cross Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad, on Court street, Railroad street, Elm, Mill, Grant, Lincoln avenue, West Court, Tompkins, Reynolds avenue, Union, Church and Greenbush streets.

Fifth, Hydrants to be placed along line of pipes as trustees of village may direct. The hydrants to be frost proof.

Sixth, Gates to be placed at all places available along pipe so pipes may be repaired without shutting off from reservoir.

At the annual meeting held in Firemen's Hall, on the 18th day of March, 1884, the following resolution was voted upon and passed : —

"*Resolved*, Third, That the sum of $2,000 be raised by special tax, for the purpose of purchasing and contracting for, from the Cortland Water Works Company, the use of forty hydrants of water for protection from fire and for other purposes during the coming year, to be located as by the board of trustees of the village directed, with three public drinking fountains on Main street."

The plans of the water company have been carried out in all essential particulars, and the village will hereafter, without doubt, be supplied with water which can be taken into every dwelling and place of business, besides being always at hand for fire purposes. It is one of the most important improvements ever made in Cortland village.

Public Halls, Theaters, etc. — The first public hall in Cortland village that was prepared expressly for amusements, public meetings, dancing parties, etc., was what was known as Reynolds's Hall, and later as Squires's Hall, after the building passed into possession of James S. Squires. The hall continued in use for its intended purposes for many years and until H. J. Messenger built what is now called Taylor Hall block, in the year 1864. This place of amusement was fitted up with a stage, a limited amount of scenery and other accessories to render it available for theatrical entertainments. It was called Messenger Hall until the building was transferred to

Wm. E. & Chas. Taylor, when the name was changed to Taylor Hall. The interior, the stage, scenery, etc., have been renewed, extended and improved at different times since it was first opened.

The subject of a new opera house in Cortland has been often discussed and agitated within the past ten years. While the size of the village and the tastes of the inhabitants demanded public amusements of a high order, the fact of there being no adequate accommodations for first-class dramatic and musical organizations has kept many such from making engagements here which otherwise would.

The current year (1884), which has witnessed so many other needed improvements in the village, will also see the consummation of plans for a beautiful theater which will be erected at a cost of about $35,000. For this purpose a number of leading citizens have united their means and taken the necessary responsibility. J. H. Kirby, of Syracuse, was employed to make the plans for the new theater and has given his patrons a building which will be a credit to himself and to the place. The seating capacity of the theater is about 1,100 and the walls are of Trenton brick.

Homer and Cortland Gas Company. — This company was organized in the year 1860, for the purpose of supplying the two villages of Homer and Cortland with illuminating gas. Nathan Randall was the principal promoter of the enterprise and J. M. Schermerhorn subsequently became largely interested in it. The first certificate of stock was issued to Mr. Schermerhorn on the 1st day of December, 1861, and the first reading of meters was made in October of that year. The works are located midway between the villages. The stock passed from the possession of the original holders to Mr. Schermerhorn in 1874, and was afterward bought by the Wilkinsons, Truesdall & Blair and A. C. Wood, all of Syracuse, who now own nearly the whole.

There are at the present time 99 street lamps in Cortland village and 48 in Homer. There are about 400 consumers in the former village and 150 in the latter. B. B. Woodworth has been superintendent since August 3d, 1880, with his office in Cortland.

Fire Department. — The first movement towards providing the village with adequate apparatus for extinguishing fires was made at the fourth meeting of the board of trustees, December 29th, 1853, when the following resolution was adopted: —

"*Resolved*, That the clerk is hereby authorized to cause a notice to be published in the Cortland *Democrat*, calling a meeting of the voters of Cortland for the purpose of raising the sum of $1,150 for engine and hose; $150 for engine house and $250 for reservoir and conductors."

The notice, for some unkown reason, was not published as directed, and at the next meeting, January 17th, 1854, a resolution was adopted embodying the same authority and directing that the meeting to vote on the question of raising the above named sums be held on the 10th of February, instant. Other delays occurred so that the meeting was not held until the 18th day of April.

The sum authorized to be raised for the engine house was changed from $150 to $100 and the resolutions were adopted. At a meeting of the board on the 29th of May a resolution was passed requesting that those persons who wished to become members of the fire company to be organized would hand their names to the trustees on or before the 5th of June, then next. It was also resolved that the engine to be procured should be named the "Tioughnioga."

The president of the board was then authorized to contract for a suitable engine, hose and hose carriage and other necessary apparatus, at as early a date as possible.

At the meeting of June 5th the following names were read as constituting the first fire company of the village:—

J. C. Jarvis, E. Gurley, Glen Cuyler, E. F. Gould, C. S. Crouch, J. B. Fairchild, A. Lyman, E. Gatty, Giles Rexford, G. Bradford, J. A. Graham, John Murray, Ballard Stephens, C. L. Todd, S. Benjamin, I. M. Seaman, H. Buell, H. Bates. J. T. Bates, H. Mead, H. A. Jarvis, J. Knowlton, Wm. Powers, H. Danes, F. Hotchkiss, R. Rounds, T. Cornwell, D. Fisk, jr., A. Sweet, D. Mallory, W. Van Schaak, I. Seaman, W. Rooks, E. Merritt, H. Rouse, J. B. Horton, R. Lee, W. Gager, C. Jones, —— Bass, E. Johnson, —— Maycumber, J. C. Pomeroy, D. Smith, J. Wiles, A. A. Sweet, Chas. Taylor, W. Alvord, R. Mudge.

At a meeting held August 2d the following persons were appointed to fill places of others who had resigned or refused to serve —

Chas. Snyder, James Carmichael, Geo. Potter, Samuel Bush, John Tierney, Wm. Burt, C. Rogers, C. W. Crofoot, O. E. House, Lyman Mead.

It will be quite clear to the older residents of Cortland that nearly all the respected citizens of the village at the time the fire company was organized, joined it.

Stephen R. Hunter, Henry Brewer, G. K. Stiles, Rufus A. Reed and S. D. Freer, were made the first fire wardens of the village.

At the meeting of the board of August 18th the name of the engine was changed to "Water Witch." The engine, with hose cart and other apparatus, cost $1056.60, which was paid in Nov., 1854. An additional sum of $150 was voted for the engine house early in the year 1855 and a liberal amount was expended in digging and enlarging wells, which work was continued by succeeding boards of trustees.

In March, 1855, proposals were called for for the construction of three cisterns on Main street, nine feet deep, of oval form, sixteen feet in the longest axis and ten feet in the shortest, with cobble-stone walls laid in water-lime. Two of these were subsequently built, with slight modifications, by John Sullivan, at a cost of about fifty dollars each.

In the latter part of 1855 an engine house was built by contract with Ira Meads, costing $262. In the following year $216 were raised with which the lot was purchased whereon the engine house was built.

In 1857 three ladders were made by order of the trustees. The committee appointed for that purpose reported that the ladders "had been made at a cost of $13.75, and thought those would be all that would be necessary at present."

The first appropriation of money to the fire company by the village trustees was made in February, 1860, to the amount of $25. An appropriation of $150 was made in the same year for purchasing a bell and putting up the same, and for other fire expenses. In 1861 the company received from the village $23.30, the amount of tax received on foreign insurance companies, and additional hose was purchased at a cost of $100.86. New wells and cisterns were also added.

In 1863 $150 were appropriated for the purchase of hook and ladder apparatus and a like sum for wells and cisterns. Dr. F. O. Hyatt was given authority at a subsequent meeting to purchase hook and ladder truck and appurtenances, at a cost of $360. On the 24th of August of this year a resolution was passed by the trustees, granting the privilege to the Water Witch Fire Company to organize a separate hose company, which should however be under direction of the fire company.

The board of trustees of 1864, at their December meeting, voted to accept the res-

olution of disbandment of the hook and ladder company, and appointed the following named gentlemen as members of a new company, with power to meet on the 10th of December to elect officers: —

Byron Phelps, C. W. Collins, W. W. Gale, M. H. McGraw, Thomas Sims, A. Sager, Frank W. Freeman, L. Dexter, J. P. Hotchkiss, Geo. J. Allen, M. P. Callender, D. Edwards, Harry Lewis, J. A. Corwin, John Ellison, Geo. G. Sperry, D. T. Williams, and B. H. Webster. At the same time $80 were voted the new company, with which to purchase shirts.

In March, 1865, the following additional members of the company were appointed: — E. D. Mallory, N. Minturn, Josiah Stevens, J. H. Gatland, J. B. Fairchild, John Ryan, Geo. Nottingham, Marvin G. Johnson, Simon Lynn, I. M. Seaman.

The Cortland Fire Department, as organized under the charter, must now consist of a chief engineer, first and second assistant engineers, a secretary and treasurer, with the necessary organized companies. The officers are elected on the last Wednesday of each year. The foremen of companies are empowered to call meetings for the election of officers. General meetings for inspection and review are held in September of each year. At a special meeting held Feb. 13th, 1866, J. C. Carmichael was appointed chief engineer. He was succeeded in 1873 by W. W. Gale; 1874, H. F. Shirley; 1878, I. H. Palmer; 1880, C. E. Ingalls.

By a resolution of the board in 1873 Water Witch Hose Company was authorized to become a separate incorporation; and in 1878 Orris Hose Company was incorporated. Excelsior Hook and Ladder Company was incorporated in 1877. Emerald Hose Company was incorporated in 1878.

In the year 1875 extensive improvements and additions were made in the fire department; the present handsome and convenient engine-house was erected under a contract made with L. G. Viele, and the first steps were taken towards procuring a steam fire engine. At the annual meeting in 1876 the sum of $2,500 was voted for the extension of the well system in the village and $5,000 for engine, etc. A rotary Silsby steamer was purchased, which has since proved its efficiency on several occasions when the village has been visited by destructive fires.

Following are the present officers of the fire department: —

Chief engineer — M. F. Cleary.
First assistant — Thomas Button.
Second assistant — Del. Barber.
Treasurer — Thomas Grady.
Secretary — Arthur M. Delavan.

The Cortland Protective Police is an efficient organization acting in co-operation with the fire department. Following are the officers: —

Captain — A. Sager.
Lieutenant — R. A. Smith.
Sergeant — Geo. W. Davenport.
Treasurer — C. P. Walrad.
Secretary — C. W. Collins.
Property clerk — F. A. Bickford.

Following are the officers of Water Witch Fire Company No. 1: —

Foreman — A. G. Newton.
First assistant — B. Delavan.
Second assistant — John Chamberlain.
Secretary — O. D. Raymond.
Treasurer — J. W. Bowen.
Property clerk — O. D. Raymond.

The officers of Orris Hose Company are as follows: —

President — C. S. Strowbridge.
Foreman — Burnett E. Miller.
First assistant — E. L. Rodgers.
Second assistant — S. H. Strowbridge.
Secretary — H. A. Dickinson.
Treasurer — F. R. Woodworth.

The officers of Emerald Hose Company are: —

President — Daniel Dolan.
Vice-president — James Dowd.
Foreman — John Dowd.
First assistant — John Dallton.
Second assistant — Thomas Purcell.
Secretary — A. McSweney.
Treasurer — Patrick Dwyre.
Property clerk — Michael Healey.

The officers of the Excelsior Hook and Ladder Company are as follows: —

Foreman — F. W. Kingsbury.
First assistant — Earl Stimson.
Second assistant — Frank Howard.
Secretary — Charles Thompson.
Treasurer — John Phelps.
Property clerk — Arthur M. Delavan.

Cortland and Homer Horse Railway Company.— This company was organized in 1882 for the purpose of constructing a street car line which should connect the two villages of Homer and Cortland. Different lines of omnibuses had hitherto run between the villages and their patronage was such as to warrant the prime movers in the enterprise in going forward with the work. During the summer of 1883 the track was laid from the southern portion of the village to the point where the D. L. & W. railroad crosses the road to Homer, and from Homer to near the same point. Here an unexpected obstacle was encountered in a refusal of the D. L. & W. Railroad Company to allow the street car line to cross its tracks. The question was taken into the courts and a decision from the Court of Appeals was given in favor of the horse railway company. The tracks will now be made continuous to Homer village.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the company, held the first week in March, 1884, the following directors were elected for the ensuing year:—

Chas. H. Garrison, R. H. Duell, L. D. Garrison, J. C. Carmichael, W. H. Clark, J. D. Schermerhorn, Wm. N. Brockway, S. E. Welch, C. C. Taylor, L. J. Fitzgerald, E. A. Fish, J. M. Milne and Coleman Hitchcock.

At a subsequent meeting of the new board of directors the following officers were chosen:

President — Chas. H. Garrison.
Vice-president — J. C. Carmichael.
Secretary — J. M. Milne.
Treasurer — S. E. Welch.
Attorney — R. H. Duell.
Engineer — F. E. Knight.
Executive com. — L. J. Fitzgerald, W. H. Clark, J. D. Schermerhorn.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

We have not to go very far into the past in search of the beginning of manufacturing in Cortland village; at least upon a scale that would call for any special attention in this work. While this place has always possessed important advantages as a manufacturing center, and particularly so since its railroad connections have been developed, yet it was many years after it had become entitled to creditable mention among the thriving interior villages of the State before its manufacturing industries felt that forward impulse which has within the past decade made its name familiar in almost every State of the Union, and given it a growth in population that is almost phenomenal.

To establish manufactures in every business center is the hopeful desire of progressive citizens the country over; for it is well known that they are the never-failing key to advancement. But it is often only after years of patient waiting that the bold spirits, imbued with energy and perseverance, are found who will take the initiatory steps in great undertakings. When this is once accomplished, there are seldom want-

ing enough others who will follow in the establishment of other industries and the community takes on new life. The manufacturing industries of Cortland, a large proportion of which have been established within the past ten years, have been almost uniformly successful, and this fact should act as a stimulant to others. Aside from the one feature of water power (and that sooner or later gives way to steam), Cortland possesses facilities for the manufacturer that are almost unexcelled. Prominent among these are her shipping advantages — a feature that is of more importance in this connection than any other.

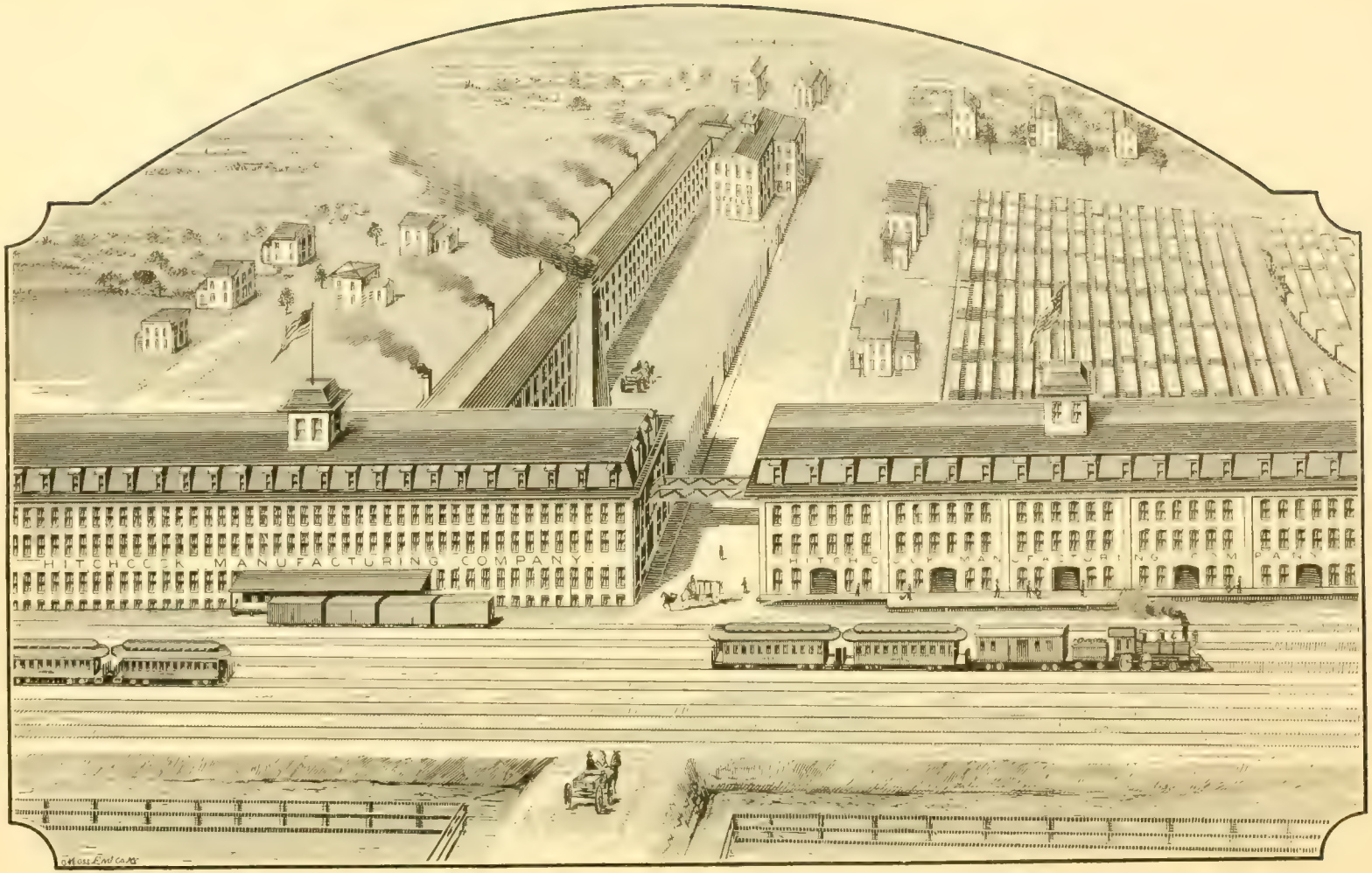
The Syracuse, Binghamton and New York Railroad connects at Binghamton with the New York, Lake Erie and Western, and Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroads; at Syracuse with the New York Central and West Shore roads; the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira connects at Elmira also with the Erie and Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, and at Freeville with the Southern Central, and the Cazenovia, Canastota and De Ruyter Railroad also connects at Canastota with the New York Central — thus giving a choice of shipment over five of the greatest rival lines in the State, and there is good reason for predicting that these ample railroad connections will ere long be supplemented by others. The village authorities are alive to the importance of offering a warm and liberal welcome to all contemplating manufacturers, which fact is becoming widely known and cannot fail to attract capital.

The heaviest manufacturing interest in Cortland at the present time is that of road vehicles — wagons, carriages and cutters. In connection with this industry Cortland village is known throughout the United States and in many foreign countries.

Wagon making in Cortland was begun at an early day, one of the first manufacturers being Joseph Crandall, who began the business in the spring of 1820. He was an enterprising, progressive man and carried on quite a large business for that period.[1] The first shop used by Crandall stood on the site now occupied by Barney Doud's tavern on Port Watson street; this old shop was burned. Crandall's second shop was the building now owned by W. P. Randall and occupied by Niver's livery stable. Crandall was succeeded in that shop by Wilber & Collins, who afterward sold to William K. Parker. He was the last manufacturer of wagons in that building, which was sold to Henry Smith, who used it as a sash factory for a time and sold it to Mr. Randall in 1848. Here he kept one of the most extensive livery stables in the county for a period of thirty years. At one time during his career in this business, in the palmy days of staging from Syracuse to Binghamton, Mr. Randall kept about one hundred horses.

The manufacture of wagons in Cortland attracted but little attention until the foundation was laid for one of the largest establishments in the world — that of the Cortland Wagon Company. In the year 1869 L. J. Fitzgerald and O. C. Gee began making wagons in the usual manner of similar works in villages, in the building now occupied by the office of the Cortland *Democrat;* there they turned out about 150 wagons annually and the business was continued on about that basis until 1872, when Mr. Gee's interest was purchased by Chas. W. Kinne. The new firm soon put in operation their plan of building platform wagons for the general market. New buildings were erected on Railroad street, and the new firm turned out 500 wagons the first year of their

[1] Among Crandall's employees was a lad who traveled from Peekskill to Cortland on foot, remaining in the establishment as shop boy for seven months. His name was William B. Kirk, now an old, respected and wealthy citizen of Syracuse.



THE HITCHCOCK MANUFACTURING COMPANY'S WORKS

partnership. The two men were full of business energy and they united their best efforts in carrying out the idea of building an excellent vehicle and pushing the sale to to such a number annually as would enable them to greatly undersell all competitors.

The wisdom of the plan was rapidly demonstrated. The third year (1875) they built and sold 1,000 wagons, and the next year 1,500, at which time the firm took the name of the Cortland Wagon Manufacturing Company and erected their wood-working shop on the site of their present immense factory, near the railroad depot of the D., L. & W. road. In the year 1876 2,200 wagons were built and sold, and in the following year Mr. Kinne died, leaving the responsibility of a large and growing business on Mr. Fitzgerald's shoulders; but he has proved fully equal to the work. In 1878 the production of the works was the same as in the preceding year, and on the 1st of January, 1879, the present stock organization was formed — the Cortland Wagon Company — and incorporated, with a captal of $100,000. The directors were L. J. Fitzgerald, W. D. Tisdale, Hugh Duffy and M. D. Welch. During that year between 5,000 and 6,000 wagons were manufactured, which number was increased in 1880, and in 1881, to 8,000.

In the fall of 1880 the middle building and the east building, which connects the north and south buildings, were erected, and on the first day of April, 1881, the old works on Railroad street were abandoned and the whole business centered at this point, between the S. B. & N. Y., and U. I. & E. railroads, with special tracks from both roads running into the works. Here the facilities were still more largely increased, until they are now manufacturing and selling 12,000 platform spring wagons, buggies and phætons, per year; thirty railway cars of an extra large size being owned by the company and employed in the transportation of their products to all parts of the United States.

The present directors of the company are the same as given above, with the exception of Mr. Welch, who withdrew. Mr. Fitzgerald is president; Hugh Duffy, vice-president and general superintendent; W. D. Tisdale treasurer, and F. Cyrus Straat secretary. The business has been extended to embrace the manufacture of buggies and the company is now without doubt the largest manufacturers of spring wagons in the world. From 300 to 350 men are employed; about $18,000 are paid in wages monthly, and the works are valued at $500,000 and cover nine acres of ground. It is an industry of which any city or village might well be proud.

C. B. Hitchcock's Buggy and Cutter Works. — In the spring of 1877 C. B. Hitchcock came to Cortland from Cincinnatus and began the manufacture of cutters, on Port Watson street. He was a practical carriage painter and had been proprietor of a carriage manufactory in Cincinnatus, whence he removed to satisfy his ambition to do a larger business. In the first year of his trade in Cortland he made and sold 100 cutters, from which moderate success grew his belief that the business could be almost indefinitely extended. To this end he purchased the old Methodist Church building which had been removed to the corner of Elm street and the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York railroad, and in the following year turned out 250 cutters and 100 buggies. Additions were made to the works in 1879 and the product increased to 550 cutters and 200 buggies. Since that time annual extensions have been made to the buildings, to meet the necessities of the rapidly increasing sales, which reached in 1883 about 10,000 cutters and 2,000 wagons. The

works now comprise a wood-working shop and engine house, 60 by 100 feet in dimensions; blacksmith shop, 30 by 150 feet; painting and stock building, 100 by 120 feet; a five-story building, 30 by 300 feet, occupied by the repository, trimming and shipping departments; and other smaller buildings. This is now the largest cutter manufactory in the world and the business has grown from $4,000 in 1877 to about $500,000. On the 1st of January, 1884, a stock company was organized, with $150,000 capital. It is the intention of the company to greatly extend the works and begin the manufacture of agricultural implements. The officers of the company are C. B. Hitchcock, president; H. L. Gleason, secretary and superintendent; H. C. Henry, treasurer.

The R. C. Tillinghast Carriage and Cutter Works.—A more recent, yet scarcely less successful, manufactory in the line of work under consideration is the one whose name is just given. In the latter part of 1881 a copartnership was entered into by R. C. Tillinghast and F. A. Warner, for the manufacture of carriages and cutters. The main building on Owego street was erected early in the year 1882 and under the immediate supervision of Mr. Warner, who is a thorough-going, practical carriage maker, manufacturing was begun. The business developed at once and before a year had expired large additions were needed to the buildings. The first year between 300 and 400 carriages and about 100 cutters were made and sold. This number has now increased to about 1,500 carriages and 2,000 cutters. The works comprise six large buildings and their product annually now reaches a value of $150,000.

The Cortland Omnibus Company.—Raymond Smith came into the town of Homer in 1841 and began farming. In 1850 he removed into the village where he established a large wagon shop near the lower bridge. He continued the business successfully until 1863, when he died. His son, W. T. Smith, succeeded in the shop, where he continued until the year 1881, during which period he had acquired an excellent reputation for building omnibuses. This branch of his business increased rapidly and led to his removal to Cortland and the organization of the Cortland Omnibus Company. From a hundred to a hundred and seventy-five omnibuses are now made by the company annually and are shipped to all parts of the United States. The popularity of these vehicles has been gained chiefly upon their lightness and strength and their tasteful styles. In March, 1882, a stock company was formed which took control of the works, with Mr. Smith as superintendent. This is, probably, the largest manufactory of omnibuses in the United States.

The Excelsior Top Company.—This important enterprise is closely allied with the wagon manufactories already described and is another of the young but very successful industries of Cortland. It had its origin in March, 1881, when L. K. Tenney and Graham Straat rented a portion of the old Gee shop on Port Watson street and began the manufacture of carriage tops in a small way, under the above name; they then employed but one man. The business rapidly increased and in November, 1882, was transferred to Wm. R. Stoppard and Fitz Boynton. This firm continued until the last of the year 1883, when the enterprise passed into the hands of W. H. Newton and Chas. E. Selover, under the firm name of Newton & Selover. The increase of the sale of their goods necessitated frequent extensions of their works, and in 1882 ground was purchased on Elm street for a new factory. This was occupied on the

10th of January, 1883, and is a building three stories high, 96 by 40 feet in dimensions, with an adjoining structure 30 by 60 feet. Here about sixty-five employees find work and a product valued at $160,000 was turned out in the year 1883, which was shipped from Maine to California. Carriage tops, dashes, cushions and backs are made, which give satisfaction to carriage builders wherever they are used.

Whoever has read thus far of the wagon manufactures in Cortland village, and its allied interests, will not fail to be impressed with the fact that here are established some of the most important industries in the country; and it will not be a difficult task to show that these are supplemented by others entirely different in character, but no less important to the village and of no less wonderful growth. For example, the wire works of the Wickwire Brothers, which is one of the enterprises that first gave an impetus to manufacturing at this point, is a marvel of success and of the deepest interest as regards the character of its work.

Previous to the year 1874 the Wickwire Brothers were engaged in the retail hardware trade in Cortland — a business which led them to the idea of establishing a woven wire factory in the village. They accordingly put in a small hand loom and began operations, producing about 150 square feet of wire cloth per day. This product was placed upon the market and the demand rapidly increased. More looms were added and the second year after beginning the new industry the firm abandoned the hardware trade to devote their entire energies to the other branch. Weaving wire by hand is a comparatively slow process, a fact which was early noted by the elder Wickwire, who determined to produce a power loom. He is possessed of a good degree of inventive ability, and with the opening of the year 1877 he had the satisfaction of seeing in operation a successful power loom of his own design. These machines were put in place of the old hand process, reducing the cost of their product and thus still further extending their trade. Thus far the firm had purchased their wire of other manufacturers. Seeing the advantage it would be to them to draw their own wire, they erected the large wire mill near the depot of the U., I. & E. railroad in the year 1880 and began the manufacture of wire on a large scale — the only weavers of wire goods in the country who draw their own wire. This building is four stories high, of brick, and is 40 by 165 feet in dimensions, with a wing 40 by 70 feet and engine house 40 by 34 feet. Three large frame buildings in rear of 31 Main street are occupied with the weaving, wood-working, painting and shipping business. Forty-five looms are operated, and a force of 100 persons is employed. A forty-horse engine is used here while the wire mill demands two engines of 150 horse power each. The entire history of this great manufactory is but a recital of increased demand for goods, with proportionate extension of facilities and gradual cheapening of products. From a business of about $10,000 in 1874, it has grown to more than $200,000, and from an output of about 150 square feet of cloth per day, it has increased to 30,000 square feet. The price of fine wire cloth has been reduced by this firm from five cents a square foot, to two and a quarter cents. Such is a brief outline of this great industry, which has conferred and is conferring an inestimable benefit upon Cortland village as well as enriching its proprietors. It is such establishments that lay broad and strong the foundations of prosperity in any village where they are located.

The working of iron in Cortland county has never been carried on very extensively,

although in recent years it shows good evidence of prospective development. The village of Cortland in its early years had its complement of blacksmith shops, one of the first of which was that of Jacob Wheeler, who was in the business at a very early day. In those days the village blacksmith was a more important personage than at the present time, especially if he was a man of ingenuity and a good workman. This was undoubtedly the case with Jacob Wheeler, as he advertised in the local paper for a journeyman who understood making axes. His shop was located on the site of the Cortland Machine Company's buildings. From the early blacksmiths to the first foundry and machine shop was an easy transition. This was established in 1832 by Daniel Larned on the site of the Cortland Machine Company's building. Five years later he transferred it to the Freers. Anthony and S. D. Freer were sons of John A. Freer, who came from Duchess county and located on lot 74. For more than twenty years they conducted the foundry and machine shop and did a large business. From the year 1860 the establishment changed hands several times until it was finally acquired by the present company, which was incorporated in 1875. The Victor mowing machine is made by this company and also certain special wood-working machines, which bear an excellent reputation and have a large sale. The main building, at Nos. 14, 16 and 18 Port Watson street, is a three story brick structure, 110 by 57 feet in dimensions, occupied by the storage and salesrooms and the office. In the rear are the foundry, machine shop and the wood-working shops, all well supplied with tools and conveniently arranged, with a sixty-horse power Buckeye engine for driving the machinery. The working force at present consists of thirty men, nearly all skilled mechanics. The officers of the Cortland Machine Company are C. S. Chamberlain, president; A. T. Dickinson, vice-president; S. B. Elwell, secretary and treasurer, and J. C. Yager, general manager.

Another extensive foundry and machine shop is that of the Cooper Brothers, which is located on the west bank of the Tioughnioga river, and occupies the old paper-mill buildings, a description of which has already been given. This property was purchased by the Cooper Brothers in July, 1881, and fitted up in a modest way with machinery for repairing and general work. Their success was excellent from the outset and in 1882 they felt warranted in building a new foundry with a capacity for casting two tons of iron per day. They have also added largely to the machinery equipment of their establishment and are now prepared for almost all kinds of general work.

An industry of this village which merits especial attention from the historian, not so much from its magnitude as from its age, is that of Horace Dibble's carding-mill. In the year 1821 Mr. Dibble, then a young man who had not long before finished his trade of wool-carder and cloth-dresser, came through Cortland on foot. He spent the night at Merrick's Hotel, on the site of the Barber block, and next morning proceeded on his way through Homer in search of employment. Passing the old building on Otter creek, in rear of which then stood a saw-mill, he was struck with its favorable location, the excellent water power and its adaptability for a carding-mill, and resolved if it were possible some time in the future he would become its owner and establish his business there. It is claimed, but not upon very good authority, that the building was then occupied by Wm. Sherman, afterward the well known merchant of Homer, as a nail factory. However this may be, the building came into possession of Martin

Merrick about the year 1824, who fitted it up with wool-carding machinery. He conducted the business until 1833, when it was offered for sale. Horace Dibble was in another county at that time, working at his trade. Learning that the object of his early ambition was in the market, he came immediately to Cortland and bought it. Here he has remained, carding wool on the original machine, for a period of fifty-one years — an example of contentment and industry rarely met with. The great gnarled willows which line the banks of the race-way running from the old building have grown from little sprouts set by Mr. Dibble between the years 1847 and 1852. The old building remains nearly the same as when it was erected and is both a well known landmark and interesting as one of the oldest remaining structures in the village.

Manufacturing in Cortland has been directed during the past ten years into numerous new and novel channels, the products of which have gone into successful competition with those of the largest cities in the Union. The business of wholesale chair-making has developed from the early methods followed in small cabinet works, scattered throughout the country, to startling dimensions through the medium of mammoth establishments, one of which is located in Cortland. The business was originally started as a general furniture factory on Port Watson street (on the premises now occupied by the Cortland Steam Mill Company) in the year 1874, by the firm of Hayes & Dellow. It was transferred to Orchard street in the following year, where Lewis S. Hayes became sole owner. It was subsequently transferred to what was known as the Cortland Furniture Company, in which Mr. Hayes was a partner. In 1879 the works were removed to their present location on South Main street and South avenue, where new buildings were erected expressly for the manufacture of a line of folding chairs which Mr. Hayes had patented in 1878. The business has since been extended to embrace a large variety of folding and adjustable chairs, platform rockers, etc., which are sold throughout the United States and in South Africa, Japan, Australia and the Sandwich Islands. This is one of the important industries of Cortland.

Another unusual industry which is helping to give Cortland its enviable reputation is that of the Sanford Fork and Tool Manufacturing Company, an organization which was effected principally through the efforts of De Forest Sanford, a son of the originator of the celebrated Sanford pitchfork. The company was organized and began operations in 1883. The works are on Elm street and comprise a main building 50 by 32 feet in dimensions, and the manufacturing building, 40 by 100 feet, in which is all of the machinery, driven by a 60-horse power engine. Robert Nixon is president of the company, and E. O. Rickard secretary and treasurer, Mr. Sanford being superintendent. Although this industry is yet young, it begins under the most favorable auspices and can scarcely fail of being an important factor in the manufactures of the village.

A novel industry has been started since 1882 in the Cortland Box Loop Company's works. This comprises the manufacture of carriage loops, buckle and harness loops, which are pressed into perfect shape. The company is composed of E. H. Brewer and C. W. Stoker, two of Cortland's enterprising young men. Their business promises to increase largely.

The lumber interest of Cortland, both in manufacture and the sale of rough stock, is largely in the hands of Henry F. Benton. He established his yards and planing mills on the corner of Railroad street and the S., B. & N. Y. railroad in 1866, a small plan-

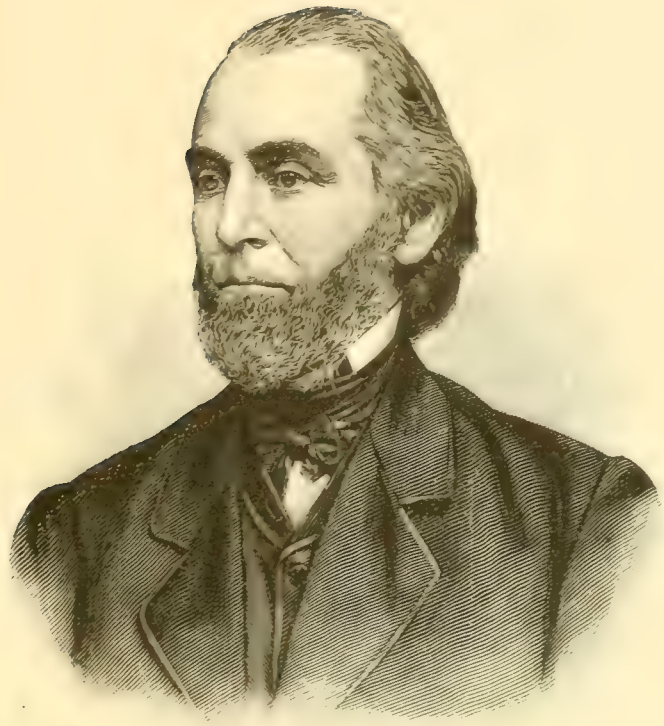
ing-mill being put in the following year. The rapid growth of the village in later years and Mr. Benton's energy and determination to keep ahead of the demands of his patrons, has given him his now extensive establishment. Three acres of ground are occupied by him, about one acre of which is under cover. He handles from three and a half to four million feet of lumber annually, and manufactures large quantities of doors, sash and blinds. About thirty workmen are employed. A glazing department has been added, which used 1,500 boxes of glass in 1883.

A casual visitor to Cortland might overlook the Cortland Machine Cooperage, which is located at the corner of Mill and East River streets. This establishment was put in operation about the year 1870 by C. W. Kinne, who sold out to Todd & Wallace; they were succeeded by Todd & Dolphin. This firm soon afterward dissolved, when John G. Dolphin continued the business three or four years. Thomas F. Brayton next took it for a time, and it is now in the hands Robert Nixon, who has greatly extended the business. A three story building with basement is occupied for the manufacturing, and another structure 15 by 30 feet for storage. The factory has a capacity for producing from 60 to 100 barrels, or 100 to 150 firkins per day, with a large number of pails and tubs. The goods are sold over a large area, extending as far west as Iowa, and bear the best reputation.

Marble Working. — The only establishment of this character in Cortland is that of S. M. Benjamin. He came to Cortland in 1850 and helped build the first baker's oven with a Mr. Bancroft. In 1852 he entered the employ of Doud & Clark in their marble works. In 1860 he, with his brother, J. W. Benjamin, bought the establishment, under the firm name of Benjamin Brothers, which continued until 1882, when J. W. Benjamin died. Since that time S. M. Benjamin has conducted the business alone. It is now a prominent industry of the town and county.

The manufacture of pottery is one of the oldest industries in the world, having been practiced by the Egyptians some thousands of years ago; and the most wonderful feature of it is the fact that there has been very little improvement in the methods of manufacture since that time. To all intents and purposes, the same little revolving horizontal wheel is used to-day in connection with the human hands, for shaping jars and jugs that is referred to in the Bible. To come down to the present time, this is also one of the oldest industries in Cortland. In 1829 a small building was erected near Otter creek for this purpose, by Sylvester Blair. His clay was brought from Amboy, N. J., to Syracuse on boats and drawn from there by horses, while the manufactured ware was shipped down the Tioughnioga river in arks or was sold from wagons about the country. This was the only pottery within a long distance of Cortland, and the business was a prosperous one for that period, reaching about $10,000 a year. In 1835 the pottery was sold to Mason & Russell, who a few years latter transferred it to Chollar & Darby. These gentlemen increased the business to $12,500 a year and conducted it ten years. In 1849 they sold out to Madison Woodruff, who had then worked in the establishment eighteen years. He added new buildings and pushed the business with so much energy that it was increased in 1858 to $15,000 a year. He has conducted it ever since, but of late years he has devoted less attention to it. Mr. Woodruff has lived in Cortland more than fifty years and has witnessed its growth from about 400 inhabitants to its present extent.

Cigars are manufactured in Cortland by





I. H. Holcomb, who established his business in 1873. He now employs five workmen and manufactures more than 200,000 cigars annually. His goods are nearly all sold in Cortland.

In January, 1884, M. E. Holton and Henry Corcoran purchased the bottling works established by H. C. Harrington, now located at No. 34 Union street. All of the popular summer drinks, ales, lager and porter are bottled by this establishment, for family and other uses.

This brief sketch of the prominent manufacturing interests of this thriving village will, we think, amply fortify our statement that Cortland as a manufacturing center is destined to take a foremost position among the villages and cities of the Empire State. With a proper recognition of the importance of such establishments by the community and village officials, and liberal encouragement after they are established, such consummation will be doubly assured.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

In conjunction with the manufacturing and mercantile interests which we have reviewed, has been built up in Cortland the necessary number of prosperous and wisely conducted financial institutions to accommodate the business community. The first of these was the Randall Bank, established by Wm. Randall, and continued with the unfailing confidence of the entire community and surrounding villages for many years. Upon the death of his father the banking business was continued by his son, William R. Randall, until it was finally closed. During all of that extended period the doors of this staunch institution were never closed to the public, who always found ample accommodation for their business needs. The bank occupied the rooms now used by the Cortland Savings Bank, in the building on the corner of Main and East Court streets — a structure that has changed but very little since it was erected.

Hiram J. Messenger came to Cortland in 1860, and to his subsequent efforts may be ascribed in a great degree the impetus in growth and business that was given to the village within the few succeeding years. In 1863 he erected the Messenger House block, then by far the most imposing brick structure in the village. In June, 1864, he opened the Messenger Bank. In the spring of the same year he purchased the tract of land on the west side of Main street, beginning near the north side of the Smith & Kingsbury hardware store and running south to the corner of Court street. He reconstructed the old seminary building into the hardware store, as it exists to-day, and in 1865 built the Taylor Hall block (then called Messenger Hall). He next erected the wooden structures which extended to the corner of Court street, and which have been recently burned. In 1867 he erected the Masonic Hall block.

In the year 1864 Mr. Messenger began business in New York city and the greater portion of his time was thereafter passed in that place. The bank which he founded in Cortland did a very prosperous business for several years, but for reasons which need not be detailed here its doors had to be closed in 1868, entailing considerable losses upon its depositors, and creating a good deal of feeling against the banker, as is common under such circumstances. Unfortunate as this event was for Cortland, it is still undoubtedly true that the spirit of enterprise infused into the business public of the village by Mr. Messenger's rapid and extensive improvements, produced an effect the benefits of which were almost inestimable and which continue to this day. Mr. Messenger has been for some years engaged in real estate and insurance business in Cortland.

The next bank organized in Cortland was the First National Bank, which was incorporated under the national law in 1863, and was organized in February, 1864, with the following directors, the capital stock being $125,000: Thomas Keator, president; Garry Chambers, Arthur Holmes, Rufus Edwards, James S. Squires, Lansing Carley, Nathan Bouton, Dan. C. Squires and Leander Fitts. Thomas Keator, the organizer of the bank, died June 25th, 1879, and was succeeded by S. Keator as president. The career of the bank has been a flattering one, and a continuation of the charter for another twenty years was applied for and granted February 24th, 1883, when it was reorganized with the same board of directors. The bank has declared dividends of from ten to twelve per cent., free of taxes, every year, and the statement of July 23d, 1883, shows a capital stock of $125,000; value of real estate, $16,000; surplus and undivided profits, $95,000; deposits, $190,370.

The present board of directors and officers is as follows: —

President — Samuel Keator.

Vice-president — R. Bruce Smith.

Cashier — E. Keator.

Directors — Hon. A. A. Carley, M. Van Hoesen, Samuel Keator, Ransom Warren, T. H. Wickwire, Samuel Sager, Hon. O. U. Kellogg, R. B. Smith, E. Keator, H. Cowan, C. W. Stoker, Robert Purvis, E. C. Carley.

The National Bank of Cortland was organized March 1st, 1869, as the Bank of Cortland, with a capital stock of $100,000 and the following board of directors: —

James S. Squires, president; Wm. H. Shankland, James A. Schermerhorn, H. P. Goodrich, Horatio Ballard, B. B. Woodworth (cashier), F. H. Hibbard, S. E. Welch, Samuel Sager, C. C. Taylor, Lucius Babcock, Jerome Hulbert, J. C. Pomeroy, S. R. Hunter, A. B. Lamont and George L. Cole. It continued as the Bank of Cortland until the first day of January, 1875, when it was chartered as the National Bank of Cortland, with a capital of $100,000, and the following board of directors: James S. Squires, president; George L. Cole, Wm. H. Shankland, Ed. M. Hulbert, Hamilton Putnam, A. B. Lamont, Byron A. Benedict, Wesley Hooker, John S. Samson, Nathan Spencer, Samuel Sager and Stephen R. Hunter.

Following is a statement of this bank dated January 5th, 1884: —

Resources.

Loans,		$290,891 81
Bonds, (Circulation)		50,000 00
Reserve,		
Cash,	$32,400 15	
From Banks,	36,844 87	69,245 02
Banking House, F. and F.,		16,500 00
Redemption Fund,		2,250 00
		$428,886 83

Liabilities.

Capital stock,	$80,000 00
Surplus and Profits,	33,099 44
Circulation,	45,000 00
Deposits,	270,787 39
	$428,886 83

Mr. Squires, after successfully filling the office of president of the bank until January 8th, 1884, resigned, and Wesley Hooker was elected in his stead. The present board of directors and bank officers are as follows: —

President — Wesley Hooker.

Vice-president — Geo. L. Cole.

Cashier — Chas. E. Selover.

Directors — Geo. L. Cole, Wesley Hooker, Wm. H. Clark, Chas. H. Parker, F. Cyrus Straat, Robert Bushby, B. A. Benedict, Chas. E. Selover, L. J. Fitzgerald, Hamilton Putnam, David F. Wallace, Chas. W. Collins, Geo. J. Mager, F. N. Harrington.

The Second National Bank of Cortland was organized the 25th day of November, 1882, with a capital of $100,000, and the following directors: J. S. Bull, Fitz Boynton, L. J. Fitzgerald, George C. Hubbard, J. R. Schermerhorn, George N. Bliss, Harsison Wells, John D. Schermerhorn, M. H. McGraw, D. F. Wallace, E. A. Fish, H. F. Benton, M. S. Pierce and W. B. Stoppard. The bank is proving a very successful institution, and the statement of July 23d 1883, shows a capital stock of $100,000; surplus $6,200; undivided profit $1,487.50; deposits, $94,000.

The Cortland Savings Bank was organized April 13, 1866, a charter being secured through the efforts of Hon. Stephen Patrick, of Truxton, and the original trustees were William R. Randall, president; Hiram J. Messenger, Thomas Keator, Jedediah Barber, George W. Bradford, Perrin H. McGraw, Henry Stephens, Frederick Hyde, Horatio Ballard, Henry S. Randall, R. Holland Duell, Hiram Crandall, Horace P. Goodrich, James W. Sturtevant, Alphonso Stone, Silas Blanchard, Raymond P. Babcock, Nathan Smith, Daniel E. Whitmore and Stephen Patrick. The bank was opened September 25th, 1866, in a small room on the second floor of Randall's Bank with Calvin P. Walrad as secretary and treasurer, and from this modest beginning its business gradually increased until it was necessary to secure the large room now occupied (formerly Randall's Bank), and the deposits amount to nearly $500,000. The trustees are now Frederick Hyde, president; G. W. Bradford, R. Holland Duell, Henry Brewer, Horace P. Goodrich, Charles C. Taylor, Abram P. Smith, Calvin P. Walrad, James C. Carmichael, Morgan L. Webb (treasurer), Stephen Patrick, Madison Woodruff, Norman Chamberlain, Samuel E. Welch, Alphonso Stone, George N. Copeland, Henry McKevitt, William H. Twiss and A. Leroy Cole, and the statement of the bank, made January 1st, 1883, shows the assets to be $449,151.43; liabilities, $426,477.43; surplus, $22,674.80.

MERCANTILE INTERESTS.

During the seventy years which have elapsed since the first business establishments were opened on the site of this village, the mercantile interests of the place have kept pace with the demands of the community in whatever direction. The superstructure of these interests, laid by such men as the Randalls, Nathan Luce, the Bassetts, Samuel Ingalls and their contemporaries, was worthy in every respect of the emulation of their successors; and today the mercantile houses of Cortland will compare favorably with those of any other village of its size in the country.

In early years all of the stores in the growing villages were such as are denominated "general stores," selling almost everything needed by farmers and housekeepers; and it is within the memory of many now living when the demand for special lines of goods first became sufficient to employ the time and effort of merchants in one particular direction. A brief review of the mercantile interests of this village will form a not unimportant part of its history.

No history of early times in Cortland could fail to make frequent mention of William and Roswell Randall, the pioneer merchants. These brothers came to Cortland from Brookfield, Madison county, where they had been engaged in business, in 1813, and began trading on the corner now occupied by the Keator block. Roswell paid especial attention to the indoor business of the store, while his brother looked after their other extensive operations, embracing the building and operation of distilleries, asheries, buying and selling stock, farming, etc. They continued together for many

years and finally dissolved partnership, when Roswell built the old "Eagle Store," a pretentious building for that period, standing on the site of the new Squires block. In that building he did an extensive business for many years. William subsequently built the brick building on the corner of Main and Court streets and established the Randall Bank. Of these brothers Mr. Ballard wrote: "They amassed wealth, were public-spirited and essentially aided in various ways and at successive periods in the growth and beauty of the village. They have left their impress upon the topography of the village, which will not soon pass away — William as a successful financier, bank president and model agriculturist, exemplified in his splendid possessions; Roswell as the finished merchant, faithful postmaster, accomplished brigade commander, the graceful host in the attractions of social life. These brothers gave enduring renown to Cortland." The family of William Randall consisted of Antoinette, Wilhelmina and William R., the two latter now living in the village. The family of Roswell Randall were William P. and Henry S. The first named is still a resident of the village. The former died in 1877. He was educated as an attorney, became a prominent politician; was a writer of decided ability and filled an eminent station in life.

Nathan Luce was a cotemporary in business with the Randalls and conducted one of the first stores in the place. He later built the original hotel, which afterwards became the well known Eagle Tavern.

Asahel Lyman was a merchant before 1816, in which year he built the block now owned and occupied by John S. Samson. Further reference will be made to his establishment and that of his sons a little further on.

Luman Rice was an early business man, became largely interested in freighting down the river, as already alluded to, and had a brewery at Port Watson before 1815, probably the only one ever established in the town. In November, 1815, he advertised his brewery, "near Sweet's Tavern, Port Watson," saying, "considering the vast difference between the effects on mankind of ardent spirits and this *cheap*, wholesome and cheering liquor, it is hoped the community will find it to their advantage to patronize the establishment." For some unknown reason he offered the brewery for sale in the next issue of the paper in which the above advertisement appeared.

In reviewing the records of the present principal mercantile houses of the village, the names of many other early merchants will appear, with brief accounts of their stores.

The Drug Trade. — It is only about twenty-five years since the ills of this community seemed to demand that sufficient drugs should be kept on sale to warrant a man in devoting his entire store and time to that interest. Previous to 1856 drugs and medicines occupied a share of the shelves of groceries and the general stores and the placards of Brandreth's Pills, Jayne's Expectorant and other popular preparations, hung conspicuously beside those of Java coffee, Young Hyson tea and mayhap silks and velvets. Then it was not necessary for the Cortland county housewife to go shopping from store to store in order to obtain her weekly supply of household necessities. On the other hand, she could enter any one of the several general stores in this village and purchase her sugar and tea, her calico and sheeting, her "Yankee notions" of whatever kind, her new bonnet and her confectionery for the little one, while her husband was investing in nails, crockery, farming tools, a new hat, a pair of boots, or what not. In 1847 the business portion of Cortland village was almost entirely

confined to Main street between the Cortland House and the old Eagle Tavern, and nearly all of it was on the eastern side of the street. Daniel Bradford kept what was called a drug store then, but his stock was almost too comprehensive to deserve that exclusive title. J. W. Sturtevant & Co. had a general store, with a strong leaning towards dry goods; and general stores were kept by W. O. Barnard, corner of Main and Mill streets, Orin Stimpson, Asa Lyman and James Van Valen; Henry Brewer had a harness store; J. McFarlan a furniture store; Homer Gillett a grocery where C. F. Thompson is now located, and L. Cudworth and I. M. Seaman also sold groceries; A. & S. D. Freer kept the only hardware store, and Andrew Dickson kept a dry goods store and the post-office in a building then standing where the Keator block is now located. These establishments embraced the business of Cortland village thirty-five years ago — a short period to witness the development and growth of what has since that time been added. They were the predecessors of the more pretentious establishments representing all branches of trade, which we shall proceed to notice as among the more prominent mercantile stores of Cortland village.

In the year 1847 G. W. Bradford, then a young man, came to Cortland and entered the store of Daniel Bradford as clerk. He remained here nine years and in 1856 opened a drug store in the same store which he has occupied ever since — a period of twenty-nine years, the only example of a merchant remaining in one location and one line of business in this village, for so long a period. His store has been somewhat enlarged and improved, but otherwise is identical with his first place of business. Mr. Bradford is a respected citizen and successful business man.

The first store opened in Cortland for the exclusive sale of drugs and medicines was that of A. Sager, and was located near the corner of Main and Court streets, on the present site of the Schermerhorn building; this was in 1857. In 1861 Mr. Sager responded to the call of his country, joining the 76th regiment, and sold his business to Dr. T. C. Pomeroy. He was discharged on account of disabilities in May, 1863, when he returned and again engaged in the same business in the old Barnard block, corner of Main and Mill streets. This was then and for many years previous, perhaps, the most prominent building in the village. It was of brick, three stories high in front and two in the rear, and was built by W. O. Barnard, who was for many years one of the leading merchants of the village and located on that corner. When Mr. Sager began business there L. Dexter had a billiard saloon in an old two story wood building adjoining the Barnard block, in the second story of which was Henry Woodruff's tailor shop. Mr. Sager continued business until the spring of 1865, when he took Thomas Dalton in partnership; the firm continued one year when Mr. Dalton withdrew. In April, 1866, the buildings above referred to and their grounds were purchased by Mr. Sager and Mr. Dexter, the former taking the corner building and the latter the wooden structure. In 1870 Mr. Sager became associated with W. A. Pierce, under the firm name of A. Sager & Co. This firm continued a year and seven months, when Mr. Pierce withdrew. In 1872 the owners of the corner rebuilt the structures into their present commodious and attractive form. The present firm of Sager & Jennings was formed by the admission of E. F. Jennings, in the spring of 1881, and is doing a large and growing business. Mr. Sager's services in the army are referred to in the history of the 76th regiment herein.

About the year 1868 a drug store was established by Abner L. Smith, who in course of time sold to Brown & Arnold, and the store then passed into possession of the late George H. Arnold. He sold in 1881 to Johnson & Barney and in 1883 W. B. Johnson bought out his partner and is now conducting the business alone at No. 6 North Main street.

In the year 1880 the present firm of Brown & Maybury was formed; composed of Charles F. Brown and M. M. Maybury. Their drug store is located at No. 3 North Main street.

Dry Goods.— One of the first, if not the very first store in Cortland devoted to the exclusive sale of dry goods was that of J. W. Sturtevant & Co., which was established in 1846 at the location now occupied by Dickinson & McGraw. The business was conducted there by that firm for more than twenty years and was favorably known throughout the county and surrounding towns. The firm was composed of J. W. Sturtevant and E. H. Doud and was at first located where Dickinson & McGraw now are. They conducted the business there for more than twenty years and were very successful. E. A. Fish was admitted to partnership in 1861, and the store was afterward removed to what is No. 19 North Main street. The general character of the store was abandoned about 1862, and in 1869 Mr. Doud's interest was purchased by C. P. Walrad, when the firm name was changed to Sturtevant, Fish & Co. Mr. Walrad came to Cortland in 1856 as a clerk for Sturtevant & Doud. In 1872 Mr. Sturtevant's interest was purchased by the junior members of the firm and Fish & Walrad successfully carried on the business, removing in 1879 to more commodious quarters in the new Schermerhorn building. On the 5th of March, 1883, Fish & Walrad sold the establishment to Geo. J. Mager, and during the same month Mr. Walrad again became a member of the firm, which is now Mager & Walrad. Such is the history of this staunch house, one of the oldest in this line in the town.

S. E. Welch is one of the oldest dry goods houses in the county, having first begun in 1845 in Upper Lisle. Previous to that time he had obtained a thorough knowledge of the business by working in stores in McGrawville. In the fall of 1846 he opened a store in McLean, where he remained until 1853, coming then to Cortland. He has been constantly in the business here since then. In 1869 he, in connection with J. Rose, built the Union Hall block in which he opened his store. This building suffered from the fire which destroyed the Garrison block in Feb., 1884. At this time he began business at his present location on Port Watson street. Mr. Welch has been entrusted with different responsible public and private trusts and has been supervisor of the town for several terms.

The direct predecessor of the firm of Warren & Tanner was that of Wells & Mills, which began business about 1862. It was then changed to Mills & Kinney and in 1868 to Mills & Warren. In April, 1872, the firm of Warren & Tanner was formed by a union of George L. Warren and James E. Tanner. The store was formerly located one door south of the present location, which was taken in 1882.

In March, 1864, Adolphus F. and Abram T. Tanner came to Cortland from Dryden, and opened a dry goods and notion store in the Messenger House block. The firm was successful and remained there until 1868, when they removed to the Moore block. When the new Garrison block was finished in 1878 they removed to a commodious store in that building, and added carpets, etc. to their stock. In June, 1883,



Abram T. Tanner died, causing not only an irreparable loss to the surviving brother, but leaving a vacancy in the community and in the hearts of many friends. After the burning of the Garrison block recently, Adolphus F. Tanner fitted up a handsome store in the new Standard building, where he is now located.

In the 1879 P. R. Brewster, of Syracuse, removed to Cortland and began the dry goods trade. He was joined by C. N. Blowers in 1882, and the firm continued until the death of Mr. Brewster in June, 1884, since which time Mr. Blowers has conducted the business alone. His handsome store is in the Standard building.

J. S. Samson's father came into the town of Homer in 1811, bringing his son with him. John S. was elected sheriff of the county in 1855, since which time he has lived in Cortland. He is now the owner of the old Lyman building, where he carries on the dry goods business.

Books, Stationery, Musical Instruments, etc. — The first store in Cortland devoted to the exclusive sale of books, stationery, wall paper and kindred goods, was that of the Apgar Brothers, which was opened in the Taylor Hall block about the close of the last war. The business was moderately successful, and in 1868 was sold to A. Mahan, an enterprising young man who had been engaged in the produce business in Virgil for several years previous. Mr. Mahan is a man of exceptional business capacity and under his enterprising and discreet management the trade of the establishment was rapidly extended and the range of stock enlarged. Musical merchandise was added, and subsequently sewing-machines and other specialities. In 1870 D. F. Wallace entered the firm where he remained a member until 1874, the business meanwhile becoming largely increased. In the year last named the firm divided their interests, Mr. Wallace retaining the book and stationery branch and Mr. Mahan taking the musical merchandise and sewing-machine interest into the new building which he erected on Court street, Nos. 9 and 11. During the ten years since that date, he has devoted his best energies to the building up of a large trade in musical instruments, sewing-machines, etc., which he has extended throughout central New York. He is also a member of the firm of F. A. Bickford & Co., dealers in guns and sporting goods, in the same building. Mr. Mahan's business ability and his general character as a citizen is fully recognized by the community, as evidenced in their selection of him as president of the village for the year 1883, an office which he filled with the most satisfactory results. In 1881 he erected one of the finest residences in the village, in spacious grounds on North Main street.

Since the dissolution of the firm of Mahan & Wallace, the latter has carried on the book and stationery, and wall paper business in his store in the Taylor Hall block, in which he has achieved the most flattering success, there being but two or three firms in the country who handle more wall paper than he, outside of the manufacturers. About a year ago he became the owner of the valuable property on the corner of Main and West Court streets, the buildings upon which were recently burned. Mr. Wallace will erect on the site a block which will be a credit to the place.

The firm of Bushby & Robinson was formed in 1883, and a stock of books, stationery, wall paper etc., was added to the railroad ticket agency which had previously been established by Mr. Robinson. After a year the firm separated, Mr. Robinson taking the book and stationery trade to No. 24 Main street, and Mr. Bushby retaining the other branch of the business at the former location.

Furniture. — John McFarlan is one of the pioneers of Cortland, at least in a business sense. He came from New York city, whence he had gone from his home in Montgomery county and worked at the trade of cabinet-maker three years. During the cholera epidemic of 1832 he went to Canada, coming from there to Cortland in 1834. He was the first furniture manufacturer in Cortland, his shop being located for a short time on Church street in the building now used as a dwelling by Mrs. Edgcomb. He remained there nine months and removed to Port Watson street, where he continued in the business about seventeen years, as the leader in that line in the county. At the end of that time, in 1851, J. C. Carmichael became a member of the firm, which remained as McFarlan & Carmichael until 1866, when the junior partner bought the entire establishment and conducted it until Albert W. Edgcomb purchased an interest in the business. On September 1st, 1883, Mr. Carmichael's interest was purchased by S. M. Ballard, the firm becoming Ballard & Edgcomb. The store was removed to No. 32 South Main street where an extensive business is now carried on.

R. Beard began the furniture trade in Cortland in 1874. In 1879 he took R. B. Fletcher into the business, which firm continued until 1883, since which time it has carried on the business as R. Beard & Son. The establishment is now located on Port Watson street.

Harness making. — Harness making and selling was probably first established here by Wm. Bartlit, on Main street in a building which stood near the site of the Schermerhorn residence. Henry Brewer, one of the pioneer business men of the village, came into the place when he was sixteen years old and learned his trade with Mr. Bartlit. After finishing his apprenticeship he formed a partnership with Oliver Glover and purchased the stock of Mr. Bartlit. The firm continued for only a short time, when the first proprietor repurchased the goods, but soon sold out to Almy & Curtis. The stock was again transferred to Henry Phillips, who was the last proprietor at the original stand. Mr. Brewer began business on his own account in 1834, renting a room in the second story of the small building then standing on the site now occupied by E. H. Brewer. In January, 1862, this building was burned with the old Eagle Tavern. Mr. Brewer removed across the street, where he remained until 1864, when he took the first floor and part of the second in the new brick building erected on the original site. He subsequently admitted his son, Henry L. Brewer, to a partnership, under the title of H. Brewer & Son, but upon the failure of the junior member's health this partnership was dissolved and Mr. Brewer continued the business alone until 1874, when he sold to E. H. Brewer & Co., and retired from active service. E. H. Brewer & Co. conducted the establishment until 1877, when J. A. Schermerhorn was admitted, and the firm name changed to Brewer & Schermerhorn, who continued in partnership until 1879, when, by the death of Mr. Schermerhorn, E. H. Brewer became sole proprietor. E. H. Brewer is also the senior member of the Cortland Box Loop Company.

I. & M. Edgcomb began harness making here in 1856, at the location now occupied by Mr. Van Alstine as a shoe store (then the old Barnard block). They came to their present location in 1860. There has been no change in this firm in all these years, except the absence of Martin Edgcomb about three years in the army.

Nathan Peck carried on harness making in Cortland a long time, but stopped some twenty years ago.

Hardware. — The business in hardware now carried on by Newkirk & Hulbert is an outgrowth of the original foundry and machine shops established by Daniel Larned in 1832, which was afterward conducted by the Freers for many years, and since transferred to the Cortland Machine Company. The Freers sold to Chamberlain & Benton in 1861. In 1865 Benton's interest was purchased by H. C. Smith, and Chamberlain & Smith conducted the business until 1873, when they erected the three-story brick building at No. 14 Port Watson street, and engaged in the hardware trade. The business was divided in 1874, the stock company known as the Cortland Foundry and Machine Company taking the foundry and machine shops, and the Cortland Hardware Company succeeding to the hardware business. H. C. Smith then bought out the Cortland Hardware Company and conducted the business for a time, and sold to C. F. Chamberlain, who was succeeded in turn by Floyd Chamberlain. In a short time, however, C. F. Chamberlain again purchased the business, and forming a copartnership with C. E. Huntington, under the title of C. F. Chamberlain & Co., continued the business a year and then organized the Chamberlain Manufacturing Company. In 1879 W. S. Newkirk and Ernest M. Hulbert, forming the firm of Newkirk & Hulbert, succeeded the Chamberlain Manufacturing Company. Upon the completion of the new Standard building the firm removed to extensive quarters in that block.

The hardware, stove and tinware business now conducted by Smith & Kingsbury at No. 12 North Main street, was established in 1859 by E. D. Mallery, in the old Lyman building, corner of Main street and Groton avenue. This was the second tin and hardware store in the village, and was started on a very small scale, the storeroom now occupied by C. H. Gaylord's grocery being devoted to the sale of hardware, and having a small tin shop in the rear. Soon after the business was established and during the same year (1859), Mallery sold to the firm of Mills & Goodrich, who carried on the business four years, in 1863 or 1864 securing the frame building then standing on the corner of Main and Court streets (and which had been occupied many years as a seminary), and removing it to the present site turned it into a hardware store and tin shop. Mr. Goodrich then retired from the firm, and Myron H. Mills continued as sole proprietor for two years, when he sold an interest to Josiah Stephens. The business was conducted by Mills & Stephens about two years, and upon the retirement of Stephens, in 1867 or thereabouts, Mills continued the business alone until 1869, when he sold the hardware department to Theodore Perkins, retaining the tin shop. In February of 1870 he formed a copartnership with F. D. Smith, under the firm name of Theodore Perkins & Co., and the tinware business was again included. W. S. Newkirk succeeded Perkins in 1871, and Newkirk & Smith conducted the business until 1875, when the present copartnership of Smith & Kingsbury was formed.

H. M. Kellogg began the hardware business in 1876 with Frank Place, and purchased his partner's interest in 1879. He was entirely burned out in the disastrous fire which destroyed the Garrison block on the 20th of February, 1884. He is now established at No. 28 North Main street.

Nelson & Call are engaged chiefly in the sale of carriage makers' supplies at 19 S. Main street.

Boots and Shoes. — In the Cortland *Journal* of 1824 we find Norman Curtis advertising the boot and shoe making business, at his shop a few rods east of Lyman & Blair's store. He kept on hand a good

assortment of leather and stated that his work was all made by the good old fashioned method of sewing. John Bement was also a shoemaker at that period and was located opposite the Methodist chapel. It is not probable that these men were the first shoemakers in the place, though they may have been; but we have no earlier records. Wm. Elder and Wm. Fisk were long engaged in the business at a later date, on the site of Dickinson & McGraw's store. The latter gentleman was bought out by Dickinson & McGraw in 1864, since which time they have carried on a successful trade at the same location.

As far back as the year 1861 C. Van Alstine began shoemaking in Cortland in a small building then standing on the grounds of the Schermerhorn residence on South Main street. A few years later this building was removed to the rear of the lot and Mr. Van Alstine went into the old Lyman building for two years when he engaged in the livery business. In 1869 he formed a partnership with Henry Purdy and in 1873 removed to the Calvert block and began a wholesale and retail business in boots and shoes. Mr. Purdy died in 1874 and the stock was closed out, but Mr. Van Alstine again engaged in the business in 1875, in the Calvert block. From 1876 to 1878 he occupied the old wooden building that stood on the site of the Schermerhorn block and then went into the building recently burned, on the corner of Main and Court streets. He remained here until 1880, when he took his present store in the Dexter House block.

A. R. & Jay Peck began the business in 1883 and have a handsome store at No. 21 South Main street.

Sackett L. Wright began the shoe trade in 1875 and still continues a successful business.

Jewelers. — An account of the Bassett family, who were the first jewelers in the village, has already been given. The next workmen and dealers in this line, as far as we have been able to learn, was the firm of Boon & Ormsby, located two doors south of the Eagle Tavern, whose business was transferred in August, 1834 to G. K. Stiles. Many people now living in Cortland will remember the building of the small wooden store now occupied by M. Michelson, some forty years ago, in which Mr. Stiles carried on his business more than twenty years. Mr. Stiles removed to Brooklyn about the year 1859 and a few years ago committed suicide by jumping into the East river.

M. Michelson began the business here in 1862 and has continued it ever since. Delos Sanders opened a jewelry store a number of years ago and in 1882 sold out to J. B. Capron. He in turn transferred the business to C. W. Barney in August, 1883. He is now located in a part of A. Mahan's store.

C. F. Baldwin & Co. began the jewelry trade at 22 North Main street in May, 1882. In January, 1884, Mr. Baldwin bought out his partner and has since conducted the business alone.

J. C. Gray came to Cortland and established himself in this business in the year 1872 which he has successfully followed ever since. He is located at 5 North Main street.

Ready-made Clothing. — The methods of clothing the masses of the people have undergone radical changes within the past twenty years, and the consequent growth of the ready-made clothing business is one of the marvels of American trade. The first store in Cortland for the exclusive sale of clothing was that of Kent & Sperry, which was opened in the Messenger House block nearly twenty years ago. The establishment was purchased by the Burdick Brothers in 1878 and sold by them to Reid & Wallace in 1881. In March, 1883, the firm became E. M. Reid & Co., and in October

of the same year F. W. Collins became a member. This continued until April, 1884, when Collins bought out his partner and now conducts business alone. His store is located at 8 North Main street.

The other clothing houses of the village are F. N. Harrington & Co., who has successfully conducted the business for a number of years; I. Whiteson, 20 North Main street, who began in 1882, and A. Rosenbaum, 30 North Main street, who began in 1883. Samuel S. Woodruff and John Morris are tailors, both of whom have had long and honorable business careers in the village.

House Furnishing. — In the year 1860 the firm of Garrison & Collins was formed, for carrying on the grocery trade. Mr. Garrison had been in the business for some years previous, and when Mr. Collins entered the firm, crockery and some other house furnishing lines were added. The firm continued together four years, when it was dissolved, Mr. Collins continuing the business and gradually going out of the grocery trade, to make way for his present large house furnishing business. This is the only store of the kind in the place.

Grocers. — The limits of our space will not permit of a detailed history of all the establishments that have sold groceries in the village; their number is legion. One of the earliest dealers of whom we find mention was Homer Gillett, an estimable citizen, who was in trade before 1829. Horace Jarvis was a grocer here for many years and afterward held the office of postmaster for over seventeen years; he was a citizen who was respected by the entire community. In those days and for years afterward all of the merchants in the place aided in supplying the tables of the community, and exclusive grocers did not exist until long afterward.

I. M. Seaman came to Cortland from Madison county in 1840 and began business in 1843; he was afterward associated with L. Cudworth (Cudworth & Seaman) until 1846; they had a grocery and meat market, the only one of the kind in the village. This firm was succeeded by B. K. Aldrich, G. N. Copeland and D. C. Cloyes. The latter came to Cortland from Oneida county in 1852, bought out Mr. Copeland and continued the business until 1878. He was succeeded by W. B. Stoppard, who now conducts the store.

The grocery now occupied by C. H. Price & Co. was for sixteen years used by Daniel Bradford, who for many years before was located where Wm. Riley now is. Mr. Bradford was succeeded by A. C. Carr and he by the present firm.

L. D. Garrison has already been mentioned as having been associated with C. W. Collins. The grocery firm of L. D. Garrison & Co was located in the Garrison block until it was burned in Feb., 1884. C. H. Gaylord began business in December, 1880, succeeding Geo. Williams. C. F. Thompson opened the business in 1875, and the Sherwood Brothers also began in the same year, succeeding Miller & Sherwood. R. S. Randall & Co. began in October, 1880, succeeding Smith & Meyers, and W. H. Bradford in 1882, occupied the store formerly used by John and George Bennett. The firm of E. F. Squires & Co. is composed of E. F. & James S. Squires, the former having previously been associated with C. W. Stoker in the same business. They are located at 23 South Main street. H. B. Hubbard has a store at 24 South Main street, and is the successor of Givens & Hubbard. These are the principal firms in the village in this line of trade.

Photography. — Cortland village has been for many years favored with photographic artists of excellent capabilities, the first of whom we find mention being Prof.

Beck, who for a long period had a gallery in Homer. He established one in Cortland in 1852. The business is now well represented by E. M. Santee, who succeeded Page & Santee, and is a first-class artist.

Bakers. — The first brick baker's oven built in this village was by Benjamin & Bancroft, in 1845; but they were too early to find a sufficient demand for their goods and closed out in about a year. The Cortland steam bakery was established in 1873 by Eggleston & Cobb, who put in steam power in 1875. About this time Mr. Eggleston retired and the firm became Cobb & Perkins. In January, 1881, the confectionery business of L. D. Garrison was purchased and the works largely extended, until now it is one of the important business houses of the village.

Hotels. — Readers have already become more or less familiar with the early hotels of Cortland and their proprietors. The first one was established by Samuel Ingalls in 1810 and was long a popular house. Moses Hopkins, the leading pioneer, was the second landlord, his house standing where the Taylor Hall block is now located. Then followed the tavern built at Port Watson by the company of eastern men who believed that was to be the site of the future village and city. About the year 1818 Nathan Luce built the tavern that first stood on the site of the Messenger House and which was afterwards enlarged and known for many years as the popular Eagle Tavern. This was burned down in January, 1862, and the present hotel erected on its site. Relative to the building of this hotel the Hon. Horatio Ballard spoke as follows at the dedication ceremonies of Messenger (now Taylor) Hall in February, 1866: "In January, 1862, the 'Eagle Tavern,' a name cherished in the memory of thousands of guests, was destroyed by fire. It was a calamity to our town and a loss to the public. But there were agencies at work beyond the penetration of human imaginings, which more than restored the loss. Just before the opening of our railway, a citizen (Hiram J. Messenger) then engaged in a limited mercantile trade in an adjoining town, removed to another county and entered upon a large field of action. He was successful. In the year 1860 he returned to this, his native county, endowed with a fortune and a public spirit. He was not slow in discovering the sure evidences of an advancing trade centering here. One of the first exhibitions of his good will and devotion to the public interests was his unexpected announcement that if the site of the old 'Eagle' was tendered to him, he would cover it with a hotel not surpassed in central New York. The offer was accepted and rising above the smouldering ashes was soon seen the stately pile, alike an ornament to the town and a boast of the county."

Such was the origin of the Messenger House, which has ever since been kept as a first-class hotel. It was long under the experienced care of Wm. S. Copeland and is now conducted by Mr. Barry.

David Merrick, as has already been recorded, built a hotel just west of the site of the Cortland House, in an early day, which he kept, and at a later date his son, Danforth, erected the Cortland House, then one of the largest public houses in the vicinity, and which was burned but a short time ago. It passed through several hands until the year 1868, when it came into possession of D. Bauder, who has kept it since that time. He is at this writing engaged in the erection of a splendid house on the burned site.

The old Center House, which stood on site of the Arnold House, came into possession of Enos Stimson about the year 1840. He sold out to C. J. Etz, of whom J. S. Samson purchased it about 1850. He kept it one year as a temperance house and

sold to Daniel Rose. Following him in the proprietorship came Messrs. Winston, Mills, Curtis, Samuel Plumb, Cornelius Brown, Fairchild and probably others. In 1865 D. J. Sperry took the property, subsequently taking in as a partner his son-in-law, W. F. Burdick. They rebuilt the house in its present form in 1870. It next passed into possession of E. F. Butterfield, who sold it to Arnold & Carr in 1881.

The building of the Dexter House by L. Dexter in 1866 has already been mentioned. He kept a popular house, which is continued at the present time and since 1881, by S. A. Williams.

The Farmer's Hotel is a smaller house, located on Port Watson street, owned and kept by Bernard Doud.

MC'GRAWVILLE.

McGrawville is a thriving village in the town of Cortlandville, about five miles to the eastward of Cortland village, and contains a population of about 900. It has two hotels, three churches, the second largest corset manufactory in the United States, a number of smaller factories, shops, etc., and is the center of considerable mercantile and other business. The village received its name in honor of Samuel McGraw, who migrated from New Haven, Conn., to Cortlandville in 1803 and located on lot 87, where he purchased 100 acres. In 1809 he removed to McGrawville and purchased about 200 acres. Mr. McGraw was a native of Plymouth, Vermont, where he was born in 1772. He was married to Miss Betsey Whitcomb in 1794 in Bennington, Vt., by which marriage he had eleven children, three of whom are still living, and the first four of whom, namely, William, Henry, Betsey, and Hiram, were born before their parents removed westward. Samuel, a younger son, is now a resident of Homer village. The children all became prominent in the early history of this village. Mr. McGraw died Feb. 6th, 1835.

When Samuel Mc Graw came to this place he built a log cabin, in which he lived until 1815, when he there erected a frame house. During this same period Simon Phelps moved in from the same place and located just east of the site of the village. During the same year Uncle Asher Graves moved in; also Rufus Graves, Reuben Persons, Jonathan Taylor and others came to the vicinity of McGrawville. Elisha Coburn, a native of Springfield, Mass., came in from Oxford and located on lot No. 79, in 1811, one-half mile south of McGrawville, where he cut timber and built an ashery and for many years manufactured "black salts;" his son, Elisha, now lives in the village.

The year 1811 is the first date we have of Deacon Park Morgan, who was the successful tanner and currier of pioneer times. Of the old settlers still living, Daniel A. Thompson, a native of Columbia county, now 87 years old, came to the place in 1817 when a young man of twenty years. He has been in the blacksmithing business since that time in the village. Lucius Babcock, Reuben Doud, Wm. Shearer (the last named located where Reuben Shearer now lives), were all early settlers of McGrawville or its vicinity. William Pike, David Corey, Dr. Hiram Brockway, Revs. Peleg R. Kinney, Joseph R. Johnson, E. B. Fancher, and Rensselaer Merrill, an associate of Harry McGraw, are all prominent names in the history of this section of the town, but came upon the field somewhat later than those before mentioned.

Samuel McGraw built the first log house in what is now the village of McGrawville, on the site of the premises now owned and occupied by Mason Kinney, and resided there until the year 1811, when he built a frame structure across the road;

this building is not now standing. Henry McGraw, his son, became the first merchant in the village. He purchased the first goods ever brought to McGrawville of Roswell and Wm. Randall, in Cortland village, and after carting them to his place, opened up in his father's old log cabin (1818). After trading here for a season only he built the second store in the place, a part of which is now occupied as the post-office. This was in the year 1822. About 1835 he sold out to Marcus McGraw and A. V. P. Wilcox. From 1841 to 1843 he rented the building to Greenman & Thompson; then H. McGraw & Son (P. H. McGraw) continued the business until the death of the father in 1849, when a company was formed, consisting of P. H. McGraw, Deloss McGraw and Lucius Babcock, and business was continued from 1849 to 1854 under the firm name of P. H. McGraw & Co., who had the third largest store in the county. Upon the dissolution of the last named firm, P. H. & D. McGraw began in the produce business and have continued it from that date to the present time, trading also extensively in wool, cattle and general merchandise.

In the McGrawville *Express*, Sept. 28th, 1848, we notice the firm of Kinney & McGraw advertising common leghorn hats for sale in their store. McGraw & Green wanted 2,000 pounds of honey; they kept staple and fancy dry goods. James Sanderson, manufacturer of cabinet furniture, continued his business at the old stand on the Freetown road. Geo. Pennoyer, at the old stand of L. Graves, manufactured carriages. M. M. Webster offered the highest price in boots and shoes or leather for 2,000 cords of hemlock bark, to be delivered at his tannery in McGrawville. Kinney & Thompson were also heavy advertisers.

The first special line of groceries was carried by John B. Lamont, who came to the place in 1851, and has continued in the business ever since. This store is the original horse shed owned by Henry McGraw. A Mr. Torrey traded in it a short time before Lamont took it. Col. D. S. Lamont, the well known private secretary of Governor Cleveland, is the son of J. B. Lamont.

Blackmer & Bingham followed in the grocery trade, and after them Albert Atkins, who bought in with M. C. Bingham in 1872, and since 1875 has been trading alone.

In the general trade of dry goods, etc., Chas. L. Kinney is the oldest merchant in the place. He began in 1844 and has since regularly followed the mercantile business. M. C. Bingham began in 1868. He succeeded E. N. Blackmer and W. H. Tarble.

The drug trade was probably represented in the stock first kept by Hiram McGraw. This was transferred in time to C. B. Warren who, in 1866, formed a partnership with C. A. Jones under the firm name of Warren & Jones, and who then purchased the small stock of J. C. Phelps and continued until 1874, when Jones bought Warren out and has continued until the present time. In 1866 C. A. Jones also established himself in the drug trade, and still continues it.

Eli Smith established a hardware business in McGrawville in 1843, dealing in copper, tin and sheet iron. Later he put in stoves and has of late years made a specialty of that branch of business. A. J. Sweet carries a large assortment of hardware and has traded successfully in this line for over ten years.

The furniture business was carried on in McGrawville from 1848 to 1852, by James Sanderson. He was succeeded by A. R. Kelsey to 1855; Col. Alfred Green, now of Cortland, and then R. B. Fletcher took it up and since 1864 R. H. Graves has carried it on. During the last few years Mr. Graves



Fiven H. McGraw

Hiram Brockway. He came here in 1832, but remained for only one or two years. Drs. Charles Kingman, Webster, Potter, Wiggins, Hill and Scranton practiced here later. Dr. Henry C. Hendrick is the oldest physician now in the place. He came from Willet to McGrawville in 1857. He practices in the old school and is now in partnership with Dr. ——— Smith, who came here some five years ago.

This village was incorporated in May, 1869. Pierce Warren was the first president; W. H. Tarble, clerk. On the 19th of January, 1869, the first meeting was held preparatory to incorporation. It was held in the office of Pierce Warren, and C. A. Jones was made clerk, *pro tem.;* Thomas B. Chaffee was appointed trustee to fill vacancy; Ransom Warren, street commissioner; Hiram D. Corey, clerk; Noah H. Osborne, pound master. The board voted $300 to repair streets and also gave names to the streets, the principal one being called Main street. The fire department was organized at the same time, with R. H. Graves as chief engineer; he was instructed to raise a company of not less than thirty nor more than fifty men. Frank Wheelock is the present chief engineer. The company use a hand engine.

The present officers of the village are:—

J. W. Cudworth, president.

W. J. Van Auken, clerk.

A. P. McGraw, R. H. Graves, Lewis Warren, Chas. S. Kinney, trustees.

Churches. — The Presbyterian Church of McGrawville was organized March 1st, 1833. The meeting was held at the house of Lester Graves, under direction of the Rev. M. E. Johnson, and Rev. Mr. Fields. O. W. Brewster, P. Cravath, Aaron Smith, Jonathan Taylor, were elected and ordained elders. There were present at the meeting, Jonathan and Phoebe Taylor, Aaron Smith and his wife Sarah, Dr. Hiram S. Brockway, Fidelia Brockway, Lester Graves and Olive Graves, Lyman and Eliza Graves, Austin Graves, Marcus McGraw, Zenas A. Bryant, Polly Graves, Chloe Tracy, Calista Coburn, Mary J. Hicks, Minerva McGraw, Caroline H. Allen, Caroline Smith, Arminda Russell, James Morey, Lewis Day. The Rev. E. B. Fancher, the first pastor after the organization of the society, remained in charge 27 years; he died in 1865, and was the father of the present editor of the McGrawville *Sentinel.* Mr. Fancher was succeeded by Rev. W. H. Bates, two years; Rev. Geo. Bayless, ten years; Rev. Chas. S. Coon, ten months; Rev. J. G. Blue, the present pastor, came in July, 1882. Before the pastorate of Mr. Bates the form of the church government was changed from Presbyterian to Congregational, but during his pastorate was again changed to its former government. The first house of worship was erected in 1833, and at intervals of twenty-five years has since been extensively repaired and improved. The ruling elders are now J. Ralston Holmes, Deloss McGraw, E. P. Fancher, H. C. Hendrick, H. D. Corey, Wm. Carr. The deacons are John Tanner, Harvey D. Waters. The trustees are P. H. McGraw, Noah Osborne, H. D. Corey, C. L. Kinney, G. L. Baker and Wm. Carr.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1831 with sixteen members, whose names were as follows: Russell Warren and wife, Deacon Pierce and wife, Deacon Forshee and wife, Israel Palmer and wife, Joshua Rogers and wife, Russell Dodge and wife, Mr. Greenwood and wife. Elder Dye was the first pastor; he remained with the church until he lost his voice, a period of sixteen years. He was followed by Elders Savage, Day, Alfred Bennett, Stone, Westcott, Smith and Elder Grant, the present preacher, who came in June, 1883. The deacons are now Nicholas Starr and Chas. Kinney. The trustees are W. C. Shuler,

Chas. Kinney, Arthur Chapin, Ransom Warren, John Kenfield and Cornelius Forshee. The first church edifice was erected in 1831; it has since been remodeled and improved, the last time in 1865. The membership is 150.

The original meetings held by the Methodists of McGrawville were in a schoolhouse on lands then owned by Wm. Shearer, now owned by Reuben Shearer, his son, and on lot 59. John Lyon and wife, his sons William, James and Andrew and their wives, Alva Burnham and wife, David Short, Drake Seymour and wife, Mrs. Haskill and one or two others, were the original members of this society. In 1834 the church building was erected in McGrawville and thereafter the society worshiped there. The church records reach back to the year 1843, at which time L. E. Weaver was pastor and S. D. Brooks, local preacher. The stewards have been Jehiel Rose, Rufus Rowe, Stillman Holden, Linus Stillman, Wm. Hicks, Wm. Greenman and Ransford Palmer. The class leaders, Jehiel Rose, Luther Lyon, Alanson Houghton, Samuel Thompson, Ransford Palmer, Morgan Wolsey. The present pastor is W. D. Fox; class leaders, J. Walker, Lucius Brooks, J. C. Alger. Trustees, David I. Brownell, jr., Albert Atkins, Peter Baljay, P. H. Henry, Helmer Jacobs. The church has now 151 members.

SOUTH CORTLAND.

This is a small hamlet situated about two and a half miles southwest of Cortland village. There is but little business done here at the present time, although in early days the inhabitants in the vicinity entertained anticipations that it would be a thriving business center.

In the year 1822 Nathan W. Rowley came from Catskill and occupied a tract of some four hundred acres of land which he had purchased of speculators at his own home. He built a large two story house and kept a tavern in the place until his death in 1830. The house burned in 1858. He also was the first postmaster in the place, retaining the office until his death, when it passed into the charge of his son Philemon Rowley. His successors were Darius Sanders, Enos Smith, Darius Sanders and A. P. Rowley, the present incumbent, who took the office in 1861.

In 1831 Philemon Rowley built the first store in the place. He was born in 1800, on the Hudson river and was married when 24 years old, to Mary S. Curtis, a daughter of Gideon Curtis the pioneer merchant of Little York. Mr. Rowley came to South Cortland in 1826 and bought the place now owned by the heirs of Darius Sanders; the latter was a brother of Charles Sanders the school book author. Mr. Rowley drew his goods from Albany for his store, which he conducted until the year 1833, when he went to Michigan to live. The store was then sold to Gilbert Edgcomb, after whose management for a time it was abandoned. The building was long used as a weaver's shop by David Sanders. There is now no store at South Cortland. The second store was built by W. Sturtevant in 1832, but it was used as such for only a short period.

In early years there was considerable business done here, and the citizens were apparently justified in their hopes of its being a thriving business center. A newspaper was published for a while — the *South Cortland Luminary* — and Mr. Rowley ran two four-horse stages between Cortland and Owego. Travel was heavy and the prospects were good for growth. But business was finally drawn to other sections and the hamlet has passed through the same experience of many others, sacrificing itself to aid in the growth of others more fortunately located.

In 1842 a Mr. Foote built a structure where he lived and manufactured combs for six or eight years.

The grist-mill was built here in 1834 or 1835, by Gilbert Edgcomb, who had also a saw-mill on Big brook. In 1865 A. P. Rowley bought the grist-mill, which he owned until the present year, when he sold the property to Daniel McNish. The mill has not been run since 1883, and there is now none in the immediate vicinity.

In a newspaper of June, 1819, we find an announcement that Samuel Eaton had "commenced burning marl lime for the season at his pond 3 miles southwest of Cortland village." There are several of these marl ponds near South Cortland, which have already been alluded to. They have been a source of considerable income to their different owners since the first settlement of this section.

The first religious society at South Cortland was organized in 1839, when a subscription paper was circulated for the building of a house of worship for the "Christians," or Disciples; the subscriptions were as follows: Zera Tanner, $100; Reuben Cadwell, $50; Reuben Cadwell, jr., $100; Alva Jarvis, $12.50; Richard Crandall, $3.50; Asa Wilcox, $5.00; James Swan, $15. The church was erected in 1840 and Elder David Wade was the first pastor; he remained but two or three years and was followed by Elders Buzzell and Wm. J. Grimes, who was the last regular pastor and remained about twelve years, leaving in 1864. Since then the society has gradually declined and now has no organization.

The Methodists never had a society in the place, but some of that denomination formed a class and called to their aid ministerial aid at various times. Ezra Rood, his son Reuben, Asher Wilcox, Zina Ford and others were prominent in this work. They never had a church building here.

Among the earliest settlers in this portion of the town we may mention Wm. Hatfield, who came from Herkimer county and located on lot 62. He had for neighbors Chauncey Jones, who settled where Daniel Terry now lives. Timothy Allen, who located where Thomas Tillinghast lives. Christopher Bowman, who located where Silas Schermerhorn lives. Jabez Calkins and Hezekiah Howe. Abel Benedict also located at an early day on lot 61, as did also Reuben and Ezekiel Wordsworth. Zera Tanner came from Otsego county to South Cortland in 1832; he died in 1861.

South Cortland and vicinity forms one of the best farming districts in the county, the land being level or gently rolling, and the inhabitants are many of them well-to-do.

BLODGETT'S MILLS

This is a station and hamlet on the D. L. & W. railroad, about two and a half miles southeast of Cortland village. The earliest settler in this vicinity was probably Leonard Tisdale, who came from Massachusetts in 1804, and located on the site now occupied by Charles Sprague.

Ezra Corwin was an early settler, and also Samuel McGraw. We have already alluded to the fact in the general county history, that Nathan Blodgett and Jonathan Hubbard, the prominent pioneers, built a grist-mill at this point at an early day. Mr. Blodgett came here in 1805 and purchased lands where his grandson, Alonzo Blodgett now lives. The mills at Blodgett's Mills was probably built within the following year; at any rate, it was very soon after his arrival. The two pioneers first put up a saw-mill and the grist-mill was subsequently, and not long afterward, erected. This property was divided in 1834. The saw-mill is now owned by Byron Utley and the grist-mill by Philo Moses.

The first store at this place was built by

James Burt about the year 1840, and about the year 1852 James Tanner built a store on the east side of the river, where he did business a number of years. He also built the house, now used as a hotel by A. Skeel, in 1863, in which he carried on a shoemaking business until 1879. Mr. Tanner's son, Edgar, owns the store property and carries on the business there now.

Teed & Wallace owned a carding-mill at this place many years ago, which they operated a long time, but the dates we have been unable to obtain. It was afterward owned by R. P. Tanner who ran it for eight years when it was burned.

The first store on the site now owned by John Hubbard was built by Nelson Owen. He was succeeded in business by James Freer; the building was subsequently burned. R. P. Tanner then began business on the site and was followed by Mr. Hubbard, the present occupant.

CHAPTER XXI.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF VIRGIL.

THE township of Virgil was originally in the southwestern corner of Cortland county, on the southern boundary of the military tract. It has since been divided, the towns of Harford and Lapeer being set off from it. The whole of this town did not belong to the military tract, as the tract called the "Massachusetts ten townships" comprehends about one-half mile in width across the original south side, leaving, however, the town nearly ten miles square. It is situated on the height of land between the St. Lawrence and Susquehanna rivers. The waters part near Virgil Corners and mingle with those of the broad Atlantic through the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Chesapeake Bay. The surface is variegated with hills and valleys, watered by numerous springs and smaller streams of water. The timber is rather heavy, consists of maple, beech, elm, basswood, pine, hemlock and cherry. Some of the hills have considerable chestnut and oak, and interspersed through the whole is some white ash and birch. The soil is quite uniform and better adapted to grazing than tillage. The water is good, and most parts are remarkably well supplied for common purposes; but there are no large permanent streams adapted to the propelling of mills and machinery. The Tioughnioga river runs through the northeast part of the town, remote from the principal part of the population.

To facilitate the settlement of this section of the country, a road was projected, connecting Oxford with the Cayuga lake, to pass through this town. Joseph Chaplin, the first inhabitant, was entrusted with this work. The instrument by which he was authorized to engage in it was authenticated on the 5th of May, 1792. He spent that season in exploring and surveying the route, the length of which is about sixty miles. He came to lot No. 50, which he owned, and afterwards settled, erected a house and prosecuted his work, having a woman to keep the house and cook for workmen. The work for cutting and clearing the road was done in 1793–94; so that he moved his family from Oxford over in the winter of 1894–95, employing six or seven sleighs freighted with family, furniture, provisions, etc.

Mr. Chaplin married Mrs. Abigail Mes-

senger, who was the mother of Gideon Messenger, one of the pioneers of Virgil Corners, and of Nathan Messenger. By her he had three sons and four daughters. His son Joseph married a Miss Chatterton and finally died in the southwestern part of Illinois. He was distinguished in the locality where he resided as a man of intelligence and integrity, was chosen a justice of the peace and a major in the militia, and was familiarly known, on that account, as "Major Chaplin." His family were Harriet, who married a Mr. Patten and removed to Illinois, where she died; Joseph, who was last heard of in Pennsylvania; Aaron, now living in Jessop, Iowa; Polly, who married a Mr. Cook and lives in Cazenovia; Gideon, who died in Iowa; Cornelius, who married a daughter of Sylvester Crain, of Virgil, removed to Stockton, Cal., where he died Feb. 22d, 1874; Sylvester, now living in Harford, this county; Catharine, who married one of the Shevalier family, of Virgil, and now lives at Macomb, Ill; and Jacob, now living at Union, Storey Co., Iowa. Daniel Chaplin, the second son of the original Joseph, had a family, but we have not found a record of it.

Benjamin Franklin, the third son, was father of George A. Chaplin, who now lives in Marathon, and of Walter L., who lives at Messengerville. The daughters were Sally, Ruth, Marietta and Isabella, two of whom are still living. Such is a brief record of the descendants of the first settlers of Virgil.

In 1794 John M. Frank, who had a patent for lot No. 43, came to ascertain its location and condition. He came along lots by marked trees, taking the present south line of the town, upon which his lot was bounded, made his discoveries and returned.

The next year he came, made a beginning in the forest, erected a house, returned to his family and made preparations to move on. He came from Montgomery to Cooperstown, then down the Susquehanna to Chenango Point, thence up the Chenango and Tioughnioga rivers to Chaplin's, thence on the State road to a point near where the village now is, thence southerly, and so on over the hill to near where Mr. Hotchkiss now lives, and then to the building he had erected. They arrived in November, 1795, after a journey of six weeks, and from that time till spring saw none but their own family. The man whom he had employed to move them in brought the family, and Mr. Frank came out on foot and drove seven head of cattle and six sheep. The sheep went away a little from the house a few days after their arrival, got out of sight and were never heard of after, and it was supposed that the wolves took them. The cattle were wintered on browse, and all lived except one yearling. Samuel Marvin, who moved the family, agreed further that he would clear two acres and furnish the family with provisions for one year for three hundred acres off the east side of the lot, which agreements were mutually fulfilled. It is well to understand, that, though the patents were for the whole square mile, yet the State reserved to itself the right to retain one hundred acres in the southeast corner of each lot, and give an equal amount in Ohio, unless the person to receive the patent should give notice of his wish to have his land together; also charged the patentee eight dollars for surveying, and in default of payment, reserved fifty acres in one corner, called "the survey fifty acres." Mr. Frank gave notice and saved the one hundred acres, but could not raise the eight dollars to save the fifty, though he offered a cow for the money, and also proposed to mortgage the whole lot in security; consequently the fifty acres were alienated, and constituted the farm now owned by George P. Dann.



Manley Nobles

The next inhabitant was John Gee, also a soldier of the Revolution. He drew lot No 21, bounded west by the town of Dryden. He came in 1795, and two others with him, bringing their provisions with them on foot from Chenango Point, and built such a house as three men could, with only an axe, without a board, a nail or a pane of glass, and returned. He moved his family the next year from Wyoming, arriving on the 7th of June. The family consisted of his father and mother, his wife and six children, to live in a building about sixteen feet by twelve.[1]

With Mr. Gee the neighbors were: J. Chaplin, at the river, about twelve miles by the road, J. M. Frank, four miles without road, and Ebenezer Brown, twelve miles west in Milton (now Lansing). The nearest grist-mill was at Chenango Point, now Binghamton, and no store even there. His flour was brought up in a canoe to Chaplin's, and generally from there on foot. In 1798 Ludlow's mill was built at Ludlowville, which was a convenience to him and the very few others who had then settled in town.

In the spring of 1797 John E. Roe came on from Ulster county, and made a beginning on his lot (the same afterwards occupied by himself and family, the site of his house now being occupied by Asa Price), boarding with Mr. Frank. He cleared a spot, put up the body of a log-house, split plank and laid a floor, peeled bark for a roof and agreed with a man in Homer to put it on. He also cut and cured some of the wild grass growing in the swamp for hay, and returned. Preparations were then made for moving on, which was done in the winter following. He and his wife came in a sleigh with a young cow following them. When they came to the river opposite Mr. Chaplin's they found the water high and the canoe that had been used in crossing carried away. Mr. Chaplin's hog-trough was procured and Mrs. Roe was safely carried over in it. She then stood upon the bank to await the crossing of what remained. The horses being urged in, swam across with the sleigh, the cow followed, and came near being carried away by the current, but after a hard struggle made the shore in safety. They put up for the night, the horses being fastened to the sleigh, as no accommodations could be procured; and they ate from the bottoms of the chairs, to allay the keen demands of appetite. The snow was two feet deep, with no track, and the whole day was consumed in coming from the river to their new home. When they arrived they were surprised to find their house without covering, consequently the snow was as deep in it as out of it. Persons of less perseverance would have been disheartened. But no time was to be lost. The snow was cleared away from a portion of the floor, a fire built against the logs, some blankets drawn across the beams for a covering, the horses tied in one corner with some of the coarse hay before them, and their first and several successive nights were passed.

John E. Roe and Charlotte Roe were the

[1] All the structures for inhabitants were made rude. Generally they were small, built up of logs, with a floor of plank split from basswood logs, door of the same, hung with wooden hinges, and the roof of bark peeled from elm or basswood, without chimney or glass window. This was the case with nearly all constructed previous to 1801, when the first saw-mill was built. And I may also proceed to say in this place, that the farming utensils, household furniture, and all such necessaries and conveniences of life, were rude and clumsy. The bedsteads were not French, but American, consisting of four posts of round timber, with holes bored to receive the end and side rails, and bark drawn across instead of cords. The young children, of which the number was considerable in proportion to the population, were soothed to rest in sap-troughs and hollow logs for cradles. It was the lot of your speaker to enjoy the latter, vibrating on the plank floor before described; trenchers or wooden plates were, in many instances, used instead of earthen, etc. — Nathan Bouton's Historical Pamphlet.

parents of five children, who lived to mature life. The eldest, Betsey N. Roe, was reputed to be the first female child born in town. She grew up an intelligent, exemplary woman, early made profession of religion, adorning the same by a life devoted to its interests. She removed to a western State, and since has died.

S. M. Roe, Erastus G. Roe and Philip T. Roe were the other children of John E. Roe. Their history was common in that they had only the advantages of the common school. All made profession of religion and became officers in the respective churches where they became located, several of which were weak and required much of their labor to sustain them. The eldest, S. M. Roe, was deacon in the Congregational Church in Virgil. Afterwards he removed to Cortland, where he engaged in the butter trade. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church there seventeen years. John M. was a leading and efficient member and officer in the Presbyterian Church in Marathon. Erastus G. Roe returned to Fulton county.

Thus in February, 1798, there were four families in the town, separated by long distances from each other, almost without roads, suffering in many respects for the necessaries of life, exposed in their property and persons to the ravages of wild beasts, and far from sympathizing friends. But the dark, howling wilderness must be changed to fruitful fields, and these were the pioneers to lead on to this great work. Wild beasts were very numerous, especially deer. Mr. Roe related that he had sat in his house and seen twenty-five pass in a drove. There were also many wolves and bears, and Mr. Roe and Captain Knapp caught and killed fifteen wolves in one year; and during the time when they were prevalent, Mr. Roe lost by them fifteen head of cattle and a large number of sheep. Their ravages were general, and subjected the inhabitants to the necessity of folding their sheep every night for about fifteen years.

For a series of years the settlers suffered great hardships and privations, but they gradually diminished, so that in 1809 or '10 most of the necessaries of life were accessible to the mass of the people.

To the number above alluded to as having settled here in 1798 may be added James Wright, who located where Thomas Stanbro now lives; James Knapp, who settled where M. B. Mynard so long resided, on the corner opposite the "West Meeting-house;" James and John Glenny located just south of what was known as "Frog Huddle," and near the residences afterward occupied by H. P. Jones and Thomas Hammond; Joseph Bailey settled where William Givens afterward lived, on lot 11, and Wait Ball where Chas. Miller now lives.

In February, 1799, Enos Bouton came into the town and settled where Emory Gee now lives, on lot 41. He reared a family of five sons and eight daughters. The sons are all dead except John, who now lives at Virgil Corners. One of his sons was Sanford Bouton, who became a prominent citizen and held the office of justice for many years and was also county poormaster for a long period. Three of the daughters of Enos Bouton are still living. Dana Miles also came in that year, and others who are not now known, so that the number who were taxed with highway labor in that year was twenty three.

In 1800 James Wright settled near where Punterson West now lives. John Calvert near where N. Chamberlain afterward lived. Seth Larabee located near where James Oaks now lives. John Ellis settled where Jay Terpening lives, on lot 23. Moses Rice located where George Luce now lives. Abial Brown where Abijah Haight after-

ward lived, in the "Gee District." Moses Stevens where Barnabas Tyler afterward lived, the property now being owned by T. Lormor, on lot 41.

Some of the more prominent of those who came in the town and settled in 1801 were Daniel Edwards, who located on lot 33, where William Glenny subsequently lived; Nathaniel Bouton settled on lot 42, where he resided during his life. He was the father of the late Nathan Bouton, who may be called the historian of the town; and of Joseph Bouton. He was a prominent and enterprising citizen. His son, Nathan Bouton, was born in Virgil in July, 1802. Although his opportunities for obtaining an education were not very favorable, he learned readily, especially in mathematics, and his father therefore resolved to make a surveyor of him. He began this study in 1816 in Genoa. He obtained his instruments in 1823 and for forty-four years after continued to practice the profession in many of the towns of the county. He became a school teacher at the age of eighteen, and continued in that honorable work at different times for many years. He was a Member of Assembly in 1857, and was a member of the Board of Supervisors at a later date. He was a deacon of the Presbyterian Church for many years, and was always an uncompromising supporter of the temperance cause. One of his sons, Lewis H. Bouton, is a prominent attorney in Cortland village, and a justice of the peace.

Prince Freeman also settled in the town, on lot 37, where Samuel N. Rounds now lives; and James Clark and his son where Wm. Terpening now lives, on lot 14.

Jonathan Edwards came in and settled in 1802 on the farm now owned by Nathaniel Lewis, near West's mill. He subsequently removed to the Corners and lived in the house now occupied by Dr. Tripp. He had two sons, Rufus and William, and three daughters, one of whom in after life became insane and killed her father. Rufus and William Edwards were among the early merchants at Virgil Corners, in the store that stood on the site now occupied by W. A. Holton. Rufus Edwards became a prominent citizen of Virgil Corners, and was one of the county judges. He now lives in Cortland village. Samuel Carson settled in this year near where Joseph Bouton afterward lived. George Wigant located in the house on the premises now occupied by George Hicks. Abner and Ezra Bruce settled near where Jay Terpening lives. William Lincoln located on the hill southwest of the village, where Nehemiah Sherman now resides.

In 1803 Moses Olmstead located on the premises now occupied by Mrs. Horace Robinson, lot 23. Peter Powers and John I. Gee settled in the western part of the town, and Andrew Van Buskirk in the eastern part.

In 1804 Silas Lincoln settled where Salmon Curtis now lives, on lot 23. Alexander McNitt took the place of James Wright on lot 3, and Obadiah Glazier located near where James Colwell now lives, lot 24. Jeremiah Shevalier also located in the eastern part of the town, near where his son John afterward lived.

The town was now becoming settled in nearly all of its different sections, but of course the rude dwellings were still a long distance apart. In 1805 Simeon Luce settled on the hill that bears his name (now in the town of Lapeer); one of his daughters, Susan, became the wife of John Sheerar, one of the prominent farmers of the town. Isaac Barton located on the farm afterwards owned by Isaac B. Raymond, between Virgil Corners and Cortland. Jotham Glazier settled where L. B. Ball now lives. Zophar Moore settled on the site of the "Corners,"

and was the first postmaster here. Oliver Ball located where M. B. Mynard long lived, giving his name to the school-house which was built at the four corners there. Isaac Elwell settled a little north of Mr. Ball's and near the present residence of Jesse Trapp. Comfort Bruce, Shubel S. Marsh and James Monroe where located in the town as early as the year under consideration, but the exact dates of their arrival are not now known.

In 1806 John Hill settled on lot 41, and John Snider on the hill which has ever since borne his name.

John Tyler, father of Jeremiah Tyler, who now lives at Virgil Corners, settled on lot 33, a little south of Virgil Corners, in 1810, where Gordon Tyler now lives. This farm has been in possession of the family ever since. John Tyler had ten children, five of whom were boys; of these latter, Jeremiah is the only one now living.

It is manifestly impossible to follow the settlements in the town from this time on in detail, and we must content ourselves with a mention of some who in different ways became well known as officials, business men, or through the influence they wielded upon the general welfare of the town. Many of these will receive attention in our notice of the business and manufacturing interests of the professions.

Isaac Bloomer came into town from Delaware county in February, 1815, and settled on the State road east of the village, where he died in 1854. His son now lives near and owns the same farm on which his father settled. Isaac Spencer settled before 1815 on the farm now occupied by his son Isaac. He had four sons, Nathan, Isaac, Jairah and Harvey. The first named lives on the State road about two miles east of the village. Joseph Reynolds settled in town in 1808, was one of the earliest merchants, held the office of justice, was Member of Assembly in 1819, county judge, Member of Congress and a brigadier-general of the militia. Much of his life was spent in Cortland. Gideon Messenger was an early settler, and a step-son of Joseph Chaplin, the pioneer. Mr. Messenger used to state that he had been through on the State road from Chaplin's on the Tioughnioga to the Cayuga lake when there was not a house in the entire distance. Mr. Messenger became prominent and was a supervisor of the town. Reuben Gridley, one of the foremost pioneers in the eastern part of the town, from whom "Gridley Hollow" was named, and who was the cause of the State road being opened through that section, was long a respected citizen. He removed to Michigan. John Tyler settled in the town in 1806, and although his residence during much of his life has been over the line in the town of Dryden, he has always identified himself with the interests of Virgil. He is still living with faculties but little impaired. He has always been one of the pillars of the Free-will Baptist Church in the western part of the town.

Dr. Green and Eli Johnson settled in the town about the year 1813, on the next farm west of that owned by Isaac Bloomer, now owned by Wm. Barry. John Giles was an early settler and lived where Samuel Sager now resides. Wm. Bell also came to the town early and has carried on the blacksmith shop two miles east of the village for more than fifty years. A man named Blaisdell was one of the first settlers in the vicinity of Messengerville, where he built one of the first saw-mills in the town, probably as early as 1805. Abram Smith settled early on the hill north of Gridley Hollow. He was the father of Nathan Smith, now of Cortland, and grandfather of Abram P. Smith, the prominent attorney and for several years county judge, now

living in Cortland village. Thomas Ryan settled in early times on the hill near Mr. Smith's; also Christopher Rorabacher, Samuel Woodward and John Woodward, and Stephen Benton, who reared a family whose names are conspicuous in the history of the town.

But we cannot trace the settlers of the town farther in this connection; many others will appear farther on, and many who are doubtless worthy of recognition, as having taken honorable part in the settlement, clearing and general advancement of the communities where their lives were spent, may necessarily be left to future publications.

Quoting from Mr. Bouton's pamphlet we learn that "the early inhabitants did not settle on prairie, where they could raise their provisions the first year, but the heavy forest must be cleared away, which was a work of time, before the laborer could be fed from the soil he cultivated; and must wait a year or two more before he had grass for his cows, and they must run in the woods, and much time be spent in finding them and bringing them home. And frequently they could not be found, especially if the search were commenced late, when they would have lain down and the tinkling of the bell could no more be heard. The milk was also of inferior quality, owing to the leeks and other weeds upon which they fed. Money was very scarce through the country, and particularly in the new parts where there was little to be sold and much to be bought. It would be impossible to express to the understanding of this, or any audience of modern times, the difficulties experienced on this account.

"It was impossible to collect enough in the year to pay the taxes. This difficulty was very much owing, so far as the older parts were concerned, to the embargo which was then in force, restricting commerce and causing a stagnation in all departments of business, and though the newly settled parts had not much to sell, they felt severely the effect of this state of things. Another difficulty existing in this town particularly, was that land was not owned by the inhabitants, but must be paid for from the products of the same to add to the capital of rich men living at a distance.

"Another embarrassment was one to which allusion was made in the description of the natural features of the town, viz.: The want of sufficient water power to propel mills and machinery, thus taking business away, and while other places were benefited, this town was the loser. There was, however, a commendable degree of enterprise among the people, and the crops were for a number of years abundant, compared with the area of ground cultivated.

"Their hardships were also very much ameliorated by common participation and mutual sympathy. Hospitality prevailed and mutual dependence promoted harmony and fellow feeling. They met, exchanged accounts of their trials, often with much humor and pleasantry, and cheered each other on. If a log cabin was to be raised for some new-comer they were all on the spot with strong arms and a hearty good will."

When first settled, Homer, Solon, Cincinnatus and Virgil were in one town called Homer. At the town meeting in 1797 it was resolved that the township of Virgil shall constitute one highway district.

In 1798 Virgil was represented and James Knapp was chosen assessor, commissioner of highways and overseer of highways, and returned eight names to be taxed for highway work. The poll tax was three days, and the number of days assessed was fifty-eight and one-half. At the town meeting in 1799, held at the house of Moses Hopkins, Virgil was honored with the office of

supervisor in the person of James Knapp; Wait Ball was chosen assessor; John E. Roe, overseer of the poor; Wait Ball, commissioner of highways, and Dana Miles, overseer of highways, and returned twenty-three names to be taxed.

Thus this town continued with Homer through the year 1804, always having its proper proportion of office and privilege.

The township of Virgil having been set off from Homer into a separate town, the inhabitants assembled in town meeting, at the house of James Knapp, on the 2d day of April, 1805, and proceeded to choose John I. Gee, moderator; Gideon Messenger, town clerk; Moses Rice, supervisor; Abner Bruce, John Gee nnd Joseph Chaplin, assessors; John Glenny, George Wigant and John I. Gee, commissioners of highways; Jonathan Edwards and Peter Powers, poormasters, and Shubel S. Marsh, constable and collector. Pathmasters, John Gee, Isaac Elwell, Samuel Carson, Jonathan Edwards, Comfort Bruce, Alexander McNitt, Obadiah Glazier, James Wright, Peter Powers, Joseph Chaplin, Elias Thompson, Peter Gray, Seth Jennings. Moses Olmstead and Abial Brown, fence viewers.

Schools.— The inhabitants of Virgil were early awake to the importance of education, and were resolved that their children should have all the means in their power to provide for its acquisition. Accordingly, in 1799, the few that were here came together and built a school-house a short distance easterly from the West Meeting-house. The first teacher was Charles Joyce, who taught two or three weeks. Next Rebecca Ball, daughter of Wait Ball, taught two summers. After her, Abigail, sister of Rebecca, was employed one term. The first school near the village was taught by Mrs. L. Edwards in her own house. Afterwards Moses Rice taught in what was known as the Remington house in the winter of 1804–5.

The Legislature had appropriated one lot in this town to the support of the Gospel and schools, and when the school law took effect in 1813, the rent was added to the funds derived from the State, and has since been available for this purpose. In that year William Powers, Oliver Ball and Gideon Messenger, school commissioners, divided the town into seven school districts.

The first grammar school was taught in 1819 by Henry J. Hall, in the east part of the double log house of John I. Gee, located where T. L. Lincoln, afterward lived. This was the first effort of systematic instruction in that science in the town. It continued four weeks with thirteen scholars. Their names were L. Beebe Ball, Stephen S. Powers, James Ball, John M. Roe, John Harris, Wm. L. Gee, Nathan Bouton, Rufus and Harriet Edwards, Lemira Byram, Marietta Chaplin and Sally and Lucy Messenger.

From 1837 to 1845, a school called the "Literary Institute" was taught one-half of each year by N. Bouton and William E. Gee, which was in a good degree successful. It was afterwards continued about two years by A. F. Frye. Other select schools have been taught since at different times. There was also a select school taught by Jesse Storrs in the part now Lapeer, which continued several terms.

There was a great scarcity of reading matter in the early settlement. Newspapers were scarce and dear; the usual price $2 per annum, with less than half the reading matter we now have, at double the price. To remedy this defect, in part, the inhabitants set up a library called the "Virgil Library," with thirty shares of one dollar each, and a very good selection of books was procured in about 1807. Another library was established about 1814, with a capital of $200, called the "Virgil Union Library." Libraries were subsequently established in each school district.

The first Sabbath-school was instituted in 1822, in connection with the Congregational Church. Since that time the Sabbath-schools have been conducted in the different churches and neighborhoods with various degrees of success.

Churches. — The first religious meetings were begun in the town in 1802. Prayers were offered by Prince Freeman, of Virgil, and James Wood, of Dryden. Moses Rice conducted the singing, and sermons were read by James Glenny. Since that early date religious meetings have been held every Sabbath, except in case of some remarkable emergency. Before that date there had been missionaries in the town, in the persons of Revs. Williston, Phelps and Johnson, of the Congregational faith, and Root, Whipple and Cole, Baptists. Methodist preachers also labored here at intervals at an early day, and some meetings were held by the Universalists, which were addressed by Rev. Archelaus Green, a resident of the town.

The first church society formed was the Congregational, on the 28th of February, 1805, with eight members, under the charge of Rev. Seth Williston. Of this church Mr. Bouton writes in his reminiscences: —

"The church was without stated preaching several years. They felt severely their destitute condition, which will be seen by the following vote passed December 3d, 1806: 'That the church will see to the satisfying of Rev. Dr. Darrow for two Sabbaths' service a year, at five dollars a Sabbath, to attend on sacramental occasions, and also to take the oversight of the church for the present.' The church struggled on through various difficulties, with preaching part of the time, meeting in various places where they could, after the 'Center School House' was burnt, in 1818, till this house could be used for that purpose. This house was put up in 1821, but it was two or three years before it was inclosed and made comfortable, and the present seats were not built till 1831. Its location, near the burying-ground, was found inconvenient, and removed to this place in 1834. About two hundred and seventy persons have been added to the church, and it now embraces about seventy resident members. The ministers who have preached statedly to the church are Rev. Messrs. Wallace, Hitchcock, Dunning, Robertson, Bliss, Bradford, Chaffee, Headley, Walcot, Thacher, Bronson, Bates, Otis, Kinnie, Burgess, Marshall, Humphreys, Kneiskern, Dunning and Offen."

A Baptist church was organized in 1807, and was fully organized in 1813. Meetings were held in private houses, with preaching by Elder Bennett, of Homer, Powers, Robinson and others, until about the year 1826, when the church organization was disbanded. In June, 1830, it was reorganized and the following year the church building was erected. It has been repaired and improved at different times since then. Following is a list of the pastors as nearly as we have been able to obtain them: William Powers, David Robinson, —— Andrews, —— Clark, Daniel Robinson, 1833: Nathan Peck, 1834; Mr. Ainsworth, 1836; Albert Cole, 1838; Stephen Jones, 1840; Mr. Lyons, 1847; C. D. De Witt, 1849; Mr. Nichols, 1854; Sidney Wilder, 1855; George Crosson, 1858; —— Betts, 1874; —— Phillips, S. H. Haskell, J. W. Starkweather, S. W. Schoonover, S. P. Way.

The first Methodist religious services in the town were held at the house of Robert Keech, on the State road, on the premises now occupied by Isaac Bloomer, in the year 1807 or 1808. The services were conducted by Rev. Geo. W. Densmore. There were but two professors of religion present — the wife of Robert Keech and another, name not known. Preaching was continued from

time to time in private houses till about the year 1818, when Israel Reynolds, a local preacher, formed a class on Snider hill. This was continued until 1859, when the class was removed to Gridley Hollow and a church society organized. The house of worship, which had been built as a union church by the Universalists and others, was purchased and the society has been kept up since, as a part of the Virgil charge. In 1830 and 1831 the Rev. Wm. C. Mason was appointed to the Virgil charge, and under his ministrations a vigorous revival was experienced and a strong society was built up. They erected the house of worship in 1831, which was used for several years, when it was removed and the present handsome structure erected. The following preachers have served the charge; the time and order of some of the earlier terms cannot now be ascertained, but where it is possible the dates of appointment are given: W. Mason, 1829; —— Wood, 1832; Smith; Densmore; S. Minier; Benham; Wadsworth; W. Woodbury; E. North; T. Wire; W. Fox; W. Wyatt; L. Tryon; I. Wilcox; J. Jameson; S. Brown, 1843; S. Minier, 1844; C. W. Harris, 1845; I. Worthing and A. Hamilton, 1847; J. Hewitt, 1848; O. L. Torrey, 1850; H. Ercanbrack, 1852; Z. Barnes, 1853; Abijah Brown, 1855; I. B. Hyde, 1857; E. House, 1858; G. Howland, 1860; A. F. Brown, 1863; O. N. Hinman, 1866; O. L. Torrey, 1868; W. Bunnell, 1869; S. Luce, 1870; J. Steele, 1873; J. Gutsell, 1876; A. H. Shurtleff, 1879; and the present pastor, H. W. Williams.

In the year 1822 a Free-will Baptist society was organized in the west part of the town, on one of the four corners near what was then known as "Ball's School-House." Meetings were held in the school-house until the year 1838, when the present house of worship was erected. This church has, at some periods of its existence, been vigorous and well supported, but in late years has somewhat declined. There is no regular pastor in charge at the present time.

About the year 1834, according to Mr. Bouton, "the Universalists formed a society, which increased to about thirty members, and continued their organization and meetings several years. Among the preachers who labored statedly with them were Revs. Brown, Sanderson, Doolittle, Brown, Foster and Bullard."

Roads. — The first road passing through the town, was the "State road." A road was slightly cut through from near the village, in the direction of the head of the lake, called the "Bridle road." The next was one laid from the State road, commencing about two miles east of Virgil Corners, where Nathan Spencer lives, and taking a northeasterly direction till it intersected the road from Port Watson to Solon, laid July 2d, 1798. The next from the State road on lot No. 24, southwesterly to near where the "West Meeting-house" now is and turned and went over the hill to the State road again. Soon after a road was laid from the State road west of Virgil Corners, and continued on to Homer. In 1801 this road was altered and run nearly on its present line. About the same time a road was laid from where the village now is southerly over Owego Hill, and the road leading from Frank's Corners nearly as it now runs, intersecting the road leading to the Gee neighborhood at the West Meeting-house, was laid soon afterwards. The road from Cortlandville to Virgil, where it now is, was laid in 1816, and that over Luce Hill nearly at the same time. The State road from Chaplin's this way was rather rugged, and it early occurred to the inhabitants that much of the hill might be saved by a road that might be constructed

from the State road, passing down the stream to Vanderburg's mill, continuing on past the saw-mill afterwards owned by Kirk, intersecting the State road near the house of Joseph Chaplin. This road was laid in 1818 through to the grist-mill. This road required much labor and expense to make it passable. It was, however, cut and worked through, so that it was traveled in 1833, and remains a lasting monument to the energy and perseverance of Reuben Gridley, who was principally instrumental in its construction, though aided very much by funds appropriated by the town.

Post-Offices. — Previous to 1808 there was no post-office in town, and all intelligence was transmitted by means of distant offices, or sent by inidviduals who might be going in the direction desired, which was attended with much delay and uncertainty. In that year a post-office was established, and Zophar Moore appointed postmaster, and the mail carried for some time by a man traveling on foot; afterwards it was carried on horseback for several years. The postmasters at Virgil Corners, as far as we have been able to ascertain, have been Zophar Moore, since whose administration and down to 1840, we have no records. In 1840 N. Chamberlain was in the office. A. E. Heberd was the next incumbent and was followed by Wm. Snyder. Willard Chatterton then took the office: then Mr. Heberd again, to be followed by Edwin Slafter. Patterson & Graves next had charge of the office and gave it up to Samuel Slafter. He was succeeded by N. R. Locke, and he by E. Winslow in 1865. Mr. Winslow has acceptably filled the office ever since.

An office was established in the southwest part of the town, in 1825 or '26, first named Worthington, afterwards changed to Harford, and Theodore E. Hart was appointed postmaster. An office was also located in the east part, called East Virgil, in 1845, and William Gray appointed postmaster. John Lewis is the present postmaster there.

Military. — Among the early settlers a large portion were soldiers of the French and Revolutionary Wars. Derosel Gee, Thomas Nichols and John Smith were engaged in the French War, so called, of 1754–63. The following are the names of the Revolutionary soldiers who have lived in the town: Joseph Bailey, John Gee, Seth Larabee, John M. Frank, Dana Miles, James Knapp, James Wright, Nicholas Brown, Robert Ryan, John Smith, James Sherwood, Enoch Smith, John Snider, Thomas Russell, Seth Bouton, George Totman, Elias Thompson, Epaphras Shelden, Silas Lincoln, Jason Crawford, David Robinson, Altamont Donaldson, Abner Baker, Isaac Tillotson, Moses Stevens, George Barlow, Simeon Leroy, Jeremiah Chase, John Stanbro, Cornelius Lamont, Elisha Brewer, Thomas Kingsbury, Adam Kingman, Moses Rice, David Darling, Stephen Kelly, Oliver Hopkins, William Parker, David Crowell, Robert Smith, Nathan Smith, Henry Turck, Nathan Walker, Timothy Robertson, Samuel Sole, Asa Parker, Thomas Nichols, Lemuel Barnes, Joel Morten, John Green, Benjamin Glazier, Jonathan Skeel.

Of these Jeremiah Chase, Simeon Leroy, George Totman, Joel Morten, John Gee, Elisha Brewer, Cornelius Lamont, John Stanbro, Enoch Smith, Thomas Kingsbury, and Stephen Kelly, were living in town in 1840.

The scenes of the war through which they had recently passed were fresh in their minds; and it is not strange that much of a military spirit should exist among the people. Consequently the call for the performance of military duty was soon made, and the call was responded to by five men,

of whom Gideon Messenger was one, going to Homer to train under Captain Moses Hopkins. Captain Hopkins had previously held lower rank, but had exerted himself to get up a company of forty-five, by enlisting old men and boys to obviate the necessity of going to Marcellus to attend company drills. Soon the soldiers of Virgil were permitted to train in town, and the first meeting for that purpose was held at the house of James Knapp, where M. B. Mynard afterward lived, under the command of Captain John Ellis, afterwards Judge Ellis, of Dryden. The captains after him were successively Abial Brown, James Wright, Geo. Wigant and Joseph Chaplin. The company was then divided, and William Lincoln commanded the east company, and Enoch Allen the west. This was the condition of the military interest at the commencement of the war of 1812–15. Levies of troops were made and the companies in this town were called on for five or six men. In the west company a sufficient number enlisted; their names were John Russell, Moses Woolfeen, and Henry Green. The east company drafted for three, and John E. Roe, Daniel Price and Ira Lincoln were drawn. John E. Roe procured a substitute. Daniel Price went and served three months, and Ira Lincoln was excused on account of ill health. At another muster David Snider was drawn and went, serving three months, the usual time for militia. There have also been living in the town several others who were soldiers in that war. Among these were Joel Hancock, Edmund H. Robinson, Jacob Bronson, Barnabas Baker, Zachariah Low, John D. Barnes, Thomas Foster, Ezekiel Miller, Reuben Gridley, Joseph Miller, Joseph Terwilliger and Edward Griswold. There was a company of aged men and invalids organized in 1813, after the example set in the time of the Revolution. Of this company Simeon West was captain, John S. Squires lieutenant, and William Powers ensign.

The town was afterwards divided into four companies, out of which there has also been for most of the time an independent company. A company of riflemen was raised in about 1813, of which Joseph Reynolds was the first captain. This company was afterwards disbanded. A company of artillery was organized in 1828–29, of which Michael Frank was the first captain. It continued prosperous for several years, but was ultimately disbanded. Afterwards a company of infantry was raised, and John W. Morse was the first captain in uniform. This company was discontinued when military duty ceased to be called for.

Mills, Machinery, etc.—The first sawmill was built by Daniel Edwards, in 1801, nearly on the ground where Murdock's tannery was located. The first grist-mill was built near where the Tyler mill stood, by Peter Vanderlyn and Nathaniel Knapp, in 1805. The mill on this site was burned some years ago. Hutchings's grist-mill, in the edge of Dryden, was built in 1809—mentioned because this town was much interested in it. Previous to the building of mills in Homer and in this town, several individuals practiced going to Ludlow's and carrying their grist upon their backs. Among these were Joseph Bailey and Enos Bouton. After a few years, and when these mills were built, persons could go with a horse, get grinding done and return the same day; and the yellow horse of Mr. Luce has been known to pace off the hill six times in a week, for the family and neighbors.

About 1814 or '15 Abner Bruce built a grist-mill south of Virgil Corners on the site now occupied by P. West's mill. It was burnt down in 1820, and rebuilt in a year or two. In 1827 it was bought by Josiah

Byram, and occupied by him for carding and cloth dressing till his death, in 1842. It was carried on subsequently by S. M. Byram, until 1875, when Mr. West took it. It has been fitted up at considerable expense, and is doing a good business.

A grist-mill was built at East Virgil in 1819, by a Mr. Vanderburg, which has done considerable business, and is now operated by E. D. Angell. Harvey Jennings also built a grist-mill in the southeast part, in 1833, which did some business till it was burnt in 1842.

The first wool carding by machinery was done by C. Baker, at his mill (afterward Tyler's), in about 1814. In 1819 Henry Burgess commenced wool carding and cloth dressing near the same place, taking water from the same dam. His building was afterwards removed to near the place afterward occupied for the same purpose by H. P. Jones.

Early Births, Marriages and Deaths — The first child born in town was John, a son of Joseph Chaplin, who was drowned in the spring of 1798, aged two years. The first who lived to mature age was John Frank, in autumn, 1797. Next to him was James Gee, in March, 1798; Betsey N. Roe and B. F. Chaplin, in February, 1799, and Hiram Ball and Hiram Bouton, in the same year.

The first marriage, as nearly as we can ascertain, was solemnized between Ruluff Whitney, of Dryden, and Susan, daughter of John Glenny, of this town, as early as 1800. In the autumn of 1801 Truman Terry was married to Rebecca, daughter of Wait Ball.

The first death was that of a stranger passing through, who undertook to go from Ebenezer Brown's, in Milton (now Lansing), to Chaplin's, at the river. He became fatigued, lost his way, lay down with his pack under his head and died. This was in April, 1798, and only four or five persons could be got together. They placed some timbers about him, for a protection from wild beasts, and left him. One of their number went to Homer to make the case known to Solomon Hubbard, esq., and ask direction. His advice was, that, as there was no coroner nearer than Pompey, the few inhabitants should get together and make such examination as they were able, and proceed accordingly. The next day they assembled and had as much of an examination as was practicable in the circumstances concerning the cause of his decease, and it was agreed as before stated. They took some boards brought into town by John E. Roe, for the purpose of making a table, and fastening them together in the form of a box, placed him in it and buried him in the grave which they had dug; his bones lie mouldering somewhere between the village and Mr. Sager's, near the hill. His son came subsequently, said his father's name was Charles Huffman, and took some shoemaker's tools found with him at his death. The first death of an adult resident was that of Mary, wife of Derosel Gee, in March, 1802.

Previous to 1806, when the public burying ground was deeded to the town by George Wigant, persons were buried on the premises where they died. The first gravestone was erected to the memory of James Roe, esq., in about 1823. It was about 1808 that the public ground was opened. It turned out that its locality was not generally satisfactory, and within a few years a place was secured for a cemetery, on lands formerly owned by Hon. J. Reynolds, and where he had buried his dead. A cemetery association, or organization, was formed according to the law in such case made and provided. Additions have been made since the first purchase, and it now consists of about six acres.

The cemetery referred to is not in a romantic place, such as is frequently chosen for the final resting-place of the dead, though in portions it is gently undulating, easy of access and very neat, commodious and respectable in appearance, and very creditable to the piety, intelligence and refinement of the people of the town and all interested as having relatives here entombed. It was a long time before the public mind became thoroughly united on this locality, during which other and smaller grounds were, of necessity, being filled up. In later years families have been collecting the remains of friends from those scattered localities where they had been interred, and depositing them together in a family plat here procured for that purpose.

Temperance Societies. — The first distillery was erected in 1803 or 1804 by James Wright. Intemperance prevailed, as in other places, till in 1829 six distilleries were in operation. The moral and philanthropic in the community became alarmed and inquired with solicitude what could be done to stay its ravages. Temperance societies began to be formed in different parts, and the inhabitants of this place, on consultation, agreed to meet and form a temperance society. The fourth of July, 1829, was chosen as the time to organize such society, and Michael Frank to give the address, at the close of which a society was formed with about twenty members. Beebe L. Ball was the first president of that society, and while he lived was its firm, judicious and ardent supporter. In 1831 a society was instituted in that part now Harford; and one on Luce hill, and another on Snider hill, about the same time.

Agricultural Matters. — Agriculture has engaged the attention of most of the people of Virgil. They have been employed in clearing away the forest and cultivating the earth, which has generally yielded good return. The implements used were those incident to the time. The plows were of the common rude kind till the year 1817, when the first cast-iron plow was brought in and used by Mr. Ball. Some of the first settlers, of whom John M. Frank was one, cleaned their grain by throwing it across the barn-floor with a small scoop-shovel, and afterwards shaking it up in a hand fan made of a hollow log, when the refuse parts were brushed off with a quill. Afterwards a willow fan and riddle were used. It was very important that the grain should be cleaned, as there were no means of taking out dust at the mills as there are now. Fanning-mills soon came to be used; the first, however, that is recollected was about the year 1809. Considerable grain of the several kinds has been raised in the town, and for some years past much attention has been given to the dairy, which, in 1851, brought in a return of $25,000. Some of the people in an early day directed their attention to the cultivation of fruit, especially apples. Very soon after his first settlement Joseph Chaplin sowed the seeds for a nursery of natural fruit, and Enos Bouton did the same soon after, and most of the oldest orchards are from these nurseries. The first nursery of grafted fruit was put out by Nathaniel Bouton, about 1808, and Oliver Ball did the same soon after.

The first barrel of cider made in town was by Enos Bouton, in 1818 or '19. The apples were bruised by a pestle hung to a spring sweep like that referred to in pounding corn. The pomace was pressed by a lever placed under a log, passing over the cheese, with a weight at the other end. It was sold for four dollars.

The history of the Virgil Agricultural Society is given as follows in the pamphlet of Nathan Bouton, already so freely drawn upon: "In the county of Cortland an ag-

ricultural society was early formed, and has continued with varied success to the present time. Some individuals from this town attended its fairs with profit, but the distance was such that few only could be induced to attend. It occurred to a few minds that it might be practicable to hold a fair in this town, thus bringing the benefits of the institution home to the people here. It is said, I believe, with truth, that the two Lincolns, Theron and Wait, were the originators of this plan. When spoken of, it very soon awakened a great and prevailing interest on the subject, which resulted in the formation of the Virgil Agricultural Society early in 1854. The members were generally inexperienced in the matter, and other embarrassments tended to retard operations, but the adage 'where there is a will there is a way' proved true, and though it was a season of drought a successful fair was held, and several agricultural men from other towns came to wonder and admire. The fair was a success. The unquenchable ardor and indomitable enthusiasm of a large portion of the people prevailed, and creditable fairs were held till 1863, making the number of ten annual fairs.

"After two or three years it was thought best to procure a piece of ground where they might be held in successive years with convenience and security. A very suitable locality was secured on a lease of years, to the amount of four acres, in a square form and surrounded with a substantial fence of boards set upright, eight to ten feet high, and a building of unassuming pretension reared in the center for a 'Floral Hall.' At first it was impossible to procure sufficient funds from membership and other sources to pay the premiums. At length it was proposed that we proceed to make a large cheese to awaken more interest in attendance upon our exhibitions. A cheese was made and pressed in a cider-mill, in a hoop supported by the tire of a wagon-wheel, and afterwards turned by a machine of ingenious contrivance, and presented at the fair. The interest to see the cheese was great, and the premiums of that fair were fully paid.

"After the cheese became mature it was divided among those who had furnished the curd, and the aggregate weight was more than five hundred pounds. The example and success of our fairs awakened an interest in other towns around; and other societies were formed which had the effect to draw from the interest of this, and owing to this fact, and also to that of a constant current of opposition raised by certain individuals who kept up a constant clamor against it, charging the administration with favoritism, etc.; and it having had the desired effect of awakening an all-controlling and widely extended spirit of vigilance and enterprise on the subject of agriculture and kindred employments, it was thought best, on consultation, to disband and profit by what we had learned, and by what we might yet learn from other fairs held near us."

Of those who held the office of president, the names are as follows: N. Bouton, S. G. Jones, Josephus Gee, C. A. Hotchkiss, J. G. Tyler, Martin Luce and Wait Lincoln.

The following are the names of those who held successively the office of secretary: S. G. Jones, C. B. Gleason, W. A. Wood, Orrin C. Dann and A. Mahan, all of whom performed the duties of their offices with ability and fidelity.

"The enterprise of the people of Virgil," says Mr. Bouton, "was put to a very significant test when the proposition for the construction of the Syracuse & Binghamton road was made. Though it was to pass only through one corner of the town, the call was responded to by the payment of $11,100 to its stock, as I learned upon in-

quiry of the lamented David Hale. It is needless to say that this whole amount was lost by those who paid it. This sum was paid with the slender hope of advantage that could be entertained under the circumstances, while other towns had the road passing them centrally, where the people paid nothing. Within a few years those residing in the west part have been called on, very urgently, to aid in the construction of the Southern Central, passing through the hither part of Dryden, and considerable sums have been paid for that road. Both these roads have been carried through, but neither of them has a station nearer our village than six miles, so that the advantages of such roads are not brought very near to us. There is, however, one consideration left for us that is rather gratifying, which is, that our town is not bonded for railroads or any other great object. Our town issued bonds for the payment of bounties in the time of the late civil war, which were felt to be an embarrassment while they remained, and an evident feeling of relief prevailed when the last of these were redeemed; and they were brought together at a meeting of the auditing board, and one of the justices asked aloud, if any one had any objection to offer why they should not be destroyed? No one raised any objection, and they were all placed in the stove, and every one seemed to breathe easier.

"Much has been done here in the construction and support of common roads and bridges; more, probably, than in most other towns around, in proportion to space and population. The alteration of the State road, so called, so as to take most of the travel from Snider Hill, so called, through Gridley Hollow, has caused a great expense, especially to the people in the vicinity, and also to the town at large; yet as this road is so located as to avoid most of the hills which abound in this portion of the town, it has been adhered to, and the considerable expense involved in sustaining bridges, etc., has been borne with as much quietude and resignation as could be reasonably expected. We now assume that the credit of our people, for enterprise on the subject of the different classes of roads and bridges, should rank as high as that of any other town in this vicinity, or anywhere else.

"Several events have transpired that have caused great sensation for a time, and made a lasting impression on many minds. The first was that of a boy lost in the woods. In May, 1796, Daniel Chaplin, son of Joseph Chaplin, and father of Mrs. Gleason, aged about fourteen years, set out to drive a cow to Mr. Frank, and took with him a few pounds of flour. The cow became refractory and turned out of the road, and in endeavoring to get her back he lost the road and wandered in the trackless wilderness. The cow returned home, thus giving notice that he was lost. An alarm was given and about fifty men assembled, which was a great number for so sparse a population. He was gone four days and three nights without food, and was found on the 'Bridge Road,' in Dryden, by Aaron and James Knapp, of Homer. They ascertained who he was, and proceeded to help him home. He had the flour with him, but the weather having been rainy, it had become mouldy and they threw it away. He was very faint and weak, but being supported on each side he could walk, and they arrived at his father's house about midnight, where his mother had about thirty men in and about the house, and was preparing victuals for them to take in their search on the morrow. Mr. Chaplin was absent at the time. We shall not make the vain attempt to paint the scene caused by his arrival.

"The next to be noticed was the great eclipse of the sun on the 16th of June, 1806, which, though not peculiar to this town, made a deep impression, and was an event from which many others have been reckoned. Another event which produced general solemnity, was that of a sweeping sickness, which occurred in the winter and spring of 1813. In a very few weeks four heads of families in that thin population were removed by death. Their names were James Roe, esq., Jacob Chatterton, William Gee, and Lydia, wife of Benjamin Glazier.

"The season of 1816 was very unfruitful, generally denominated the cold season, followed by great scarcity of provisions, etc. In 1821 there was much suffering on account of scarcity of food for stock, and it was also a time of great pecuniary embarrassment. In 1836–37 there was also a scant supply of provisions and a time of derangement in pecuniary matters, resulting from the insane speculations immediately preceding, in which many engaged with that recklessness characteristic of those in haste to be rich. It is unnecessary to say that these last were events common to the whole country, and affecting this town only as a constituent part of the same."

Frequent allusion has been made to the division of the town. It had long been evident to discriminating minds that this event must take place at some time, but the different interests involved and the condition of political parties delayed it till 1846. It was then divided into three towns; the north half constituted one and retained the original name. The south half was formed into two; the west part receiving the name of Harford, and the east that of Lapeer. Since that time a part of Virgil has been set to Cortlandville, and another part consisting of lot No. 20 has been attached to Freetown. Thus Virgil, from being one-fourth part of one town in 1796, has become the whole of three and a part of two others. The population has increased from thirty in 1798 to 4,541 in 1845, and 2,410 in 1850, after the division. Stock taken on the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad amounts to $11,100. Other statistics have been given in their proper places.

It is worthy of note that Nathaniel Bouton, one of the pioneers of Virgil, was the projector of the New York and Erie Railroad, and continued to advocate the same till an influence was awakened that resulted in its construction and completion. He conceived the idea of constructing a railroad from the city of New York to Lake Erie, direct through the then secluded southern tier; and in the year 1828 he examined a route through sufficiently well to know that it was a feasible one, and with the aid of Nathan Bouton he prepared and published the outlines of his plan in the Cortland *Observer*, a paper then issued in Homer village.

His plan was copied in several periodicals along the line of the proposed road; and from that time the subject of a New York and Erie Railroad continued to occupy the public mind until the grand project was completed. The decease of De Witt Clinton, whose death was announced in the same sheet that published Mr. Bouton's plan, was a cause of discouragement to him, for he had fondly hoped that his favorite project would receive the approbation and aid of that distinguished statesman; but the nucleus was formed, the project was originated, and the work advanced. Mr. Bouton was anxious that it should be a State work; he argued that it would be good policy for the State to engage in it—that it would annually yield a revenue which might be advantageously expended for the support of schools.

A few months previous to the final completion of the road its worthy projector died

at his residence in this town, where he had lived forty-five years. He had lived to see the place of his adoption transformed from a wild and howling wilderness into a delightful and well-cultivated country, inhabited by a moral, intelligent and industrious people. He had lived, too, to see the distance between his residence and the Atlantic changed from a dreary journey of two weeks into a pleasant ride of only a few hours, and this town enjoying all the privileges and possessed of all the elements which are necessary to promote the happiness of a people.

No town in the county has a prouder record than Virgil in the war of the rebellion. Her sons volunteered to the defense of liberty and her representatives were authorized to expend her wealth freely in the common cause. The following list shows the names of those who enlisted in the army, and the amount of bounties paid to them under the different calls of the president for troops:—

Calls of October 17th, 1863 and February and March, 1864. Amount of bounty paid $300.00. Total $12,600. — E. F. Hovey, Rolland C. Frank, Jared R. Lathrop, Chester Hillsinger, John Schnottebeck, Melvin W. Diven, Eugene Johnson, Elias Joyner, Peter Conrad, Leander J. Webber, Riley E. Simmonds, Francis Haskill, Henry Colligan, Nelson R. Conrad, Peter N. Palmeter, Horatio E. Moore, Reuben Hawley, Silas L. Griswold, Miles H. Hutchings, Jaspar Parker, William H. Hopping, John Summers, Charles H. Spaulding, Charles Winney, Henry Wain, Martin L. Sweet, Henry A. Dean, Otis Graves, Chas. Clark, John Sullivan, James Shields, John Stevens, John J. H. Allen, John Corbett, Thomas Benson, George Kelly, Ira Pooler, James Welch, Harry F. Morris, William Stevens, William P. Ferman.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Amount of bounty paid $1,000. Total, $46,000. Brokerage, $1,175. — William B. West, James Gorman, John Manning, James Cooke, Thomas McFarland, William S. De Puy, Wilber R. Arnold, James Haskins, Nelson R. McIntosh, C. Bradley Mix, Nathaniel M. Parks, Aaron Williams, Loren D. Gillen, Charles H. Lang, Andrew Olmstead, Benjamin Pelham, George R. Price, Seymour Skinner, James Shevalier, Hiram G. Conrad, Nathan Sherman, Everett H. Jacobson, James L. Thomas, Nelson Joiner, Horace F. Baker, Edgar Parker, Elijah Moffat, jr., Vinus Johnson, George Butterfield, Hiram E. Baker, Albert Lucē, Storry Kinney, Lafayette Darling, Thomas B. Hopkins, Eren Hackett, David B. Hammond, George W. Gross, Edward Harrison, Purdy H. Green, Samuel G. Dickinson, William Coe, Alfred D. Ascroft, De Forest Willard, Calvin S. Gray, Leander Ross, Horace Stafford, Frank D. Wright.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Brokerage, $165. — John Burnett, Andrew Parker, Patrick Brown, Charles Dogan, Eli J. Wood, James Brown, Charles Youngs, Sylvester Ryder, Joseph W. Harris, Charles H. Flint, James H. Hanson.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $12,600. Paid for filling quotas, call July 18th, 1864, $47,175. Paid for filling quota, call for December 19th, 1864, $165. Grand Total, $59,940.

VIRGIL CORNERS.

The place bearing this name is a pretty little village situated in the southwestern part of lot 24, which is located a little west of the center of the town. At this point valleys from the eastward, westward and southward open upon a level plain, while in other directions lofty and steep or rolling hills arise. The village now comprises three churches, a hotel, four stores, three

carriage shops, four blacksmith shops, harness shop, etc., with about fifty houses. It is six miles south of Cortland village and about the same distance from railroad communication at Messengerville, on the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York railroad, and at Dryden on the Southern Central road. It has a daily mail from Cortland village.

One of the earliest settlers on the site of the village was Jacob Chatterton, the ancestor of the numerous families of that name who lived in the town. He located in 1800 on the site of Dr. Muncey's residence, where he subsequently died.

Thomas Mott was one of the earliest settlers in Virgil Corners, where he came from Franklin, Delaware county, in 1807. He settled on the premises now occupied by Myron Ballou, just east of the village, where he remained until his death. He had a large family, among whom was Thomas Mott, jr., who was born in Franklin in 1807. He spent a long life at Virgil Corners, where he held the office of justice of the peace for more than forty years and until his death, which occurred in 1882. Among the other children of the elder Thomas Mott were the second wife of Dr. Horace Bronson, who is still living at Virgil Corners; Mrs. Joseph Reynolds, her husband being one of the first merchants in the place; Mrs. Dr. Terry, whose husband was one of Dr. Bronson's students, and Henry Mott, who died in Michigan.

Samuel Slafter settled on the premises south of the Corners, where John Oakley now lives. He subsequently and at an early day removed to the village, where he engaged in the manufacture and sale of horn combs. He was postmaster at an early period. His son Edwin became a merchant in the place, as will hereafter appear, and is now a prominent citizen of Cortland village.

William Lincoln settled in an early year on the farm now occupied by Abram Sager, and removed to the Corners some forty years ago. He lived in the house now occupied by Aaron Hutchings. He acquired the title of "Major," through his services in the State militia and was much respected. He had seven sons — Silas, Theron, Wait, William, Clinton, Levi and Oscar. The latter is dead.

Timothy Green, sen., settled on the farm near the village on the south, where James Mitchell had subsequently lived, before 1810. He had three sons, Timothy, jr., Joel and Jesse. The last two were twins and removed to the West. Timothy spent the most of his life on the farm about a mile west of the village, and became an influential citizen. He was elected to the Legislature, and was supervisor of the town. He removed to the Corners late in life, and died there.

Nathan Bouton lived for a number of years in the earlier portion of his life where Rufus Holton now lives and exerted an influence for good upon the young community.

Moses Olmstead lived at an early day three-fourths of a mile west of the Corners, on the farm where Horace Robinson now resides. He had three sons, William, David and James. They are all dead.

The names of many of the early settlers on the site of the little village called Virgil Corners, have already been mentioned. It was probably as late or later than 1810 before there was much of a settlement at this point, the post-office having been established in 1808, with Zophar Moore as postmaster, as before noted. There were then two or three grist-mills in the town, several saw-mills, carding-mills, etc., and a population sufficient to make it evident that there would soon at least be a demand for mercantile business.[1]

[1] Before the partially cleared farms produced a sufficient amount of grain for the sustenance of the people, it was

The first merchant at Virgil Corners was probably J. K. Lampheer, but the exact date when he began business here is not now accessible. His first place of business was on the site of Perkins's wagon shop. About the same time Gideon Messenger opened a store in a small way in a portion of the house now occupied by Charles Johnson. Joseph Reynolds, who came here in 1808, began mercantile business not long after the first store was opened, in the building which is now used as a shop by Mr. Perkins. It stood then on the site of A. H. Peckham's store. The site now occupied by Wm. Holton's store was first used for mercantile purposes by Wm. Snider. He was succeeded by Rufus and Wm. Edwards and later by A. E. Heberd, who transferred the business to John Chamberlain in about the year 1838 and two years later built the store now occupied by S. K. Jones. Chamberlain remained in the store on the Holton site about two years, when he bought out Mr. Reynolds, the purchase including the dwelling now occupied by E. A. Crain. Wm. Snider again took the site occupied by Mr. Holton and continued in business there until 1856, when he failed and closed out his business. He was followed by Patterson & Graves. The store was burned about the year 1860, when B. J. Jones purchased the lot and erected a new store. The premises were sold to Wm. A. Holton in 1873, who erected the present store in the same year. He now carries on a successful trade.

Mr. Chamberlain failed in the store on Mr. Peckham's site about the year 1845, and the business was closed out by Rufus Edwards. The store was next occupied by Platt F. Grow and James S. Squires. About the year 1850 the old building was removed to its present location and the present store was built by Dudley Benton. The building was partially occupied by S. M. Roe as a produce depot for a year or more, when E. A. Crain took it and began mercantile business, which he continued about two years. He was followed by Grow & Jones for about the same length of time. Eugene Edwards then took it and continued business about four years. He sold out to Wm. H. Smith, who afterwards associated with himself D. F. Wallace. Mr. Smith retired from the firm and in 1870 W. A. Holton and A. H. Peckham purchased the business. They remained together until 1873, when Mr. Peckham bought out his partner, who bought and built upon his present location, as above stated. Mr. Peckham has successfully conducted the business since 1873.

Mr. Heberd continued business in the store built by him in 1840 (now occupied by Mr. Jones) until 1847, when he failed. He was followed by Winslow & Slafter (E. Winslow and E. P. Slafter) for three years, when Mr. Winslow took the business alone and continued it successfully for eight years, or until 1858, having in the mean time purchased the building. At the date last men-

common for the able-bodied, stalwart young men to go, as it was said, "out to the lakes," to work during harvest, that they might supplement the scanty amount grown on their own narrow fields. I might mention as a specimen of difficulties to be overcome, the scanty remuneration received by ministers of the gospel. One who had labored several years in a church made a statement which is derived from an authentic source to this effect: that he had not received money enough from the church to which he ministered to pay the postage on letters which he had received on their account. Afterwards the same church secured the labors of a minister on a salary of fifty dollars. Another church passed a solemn resolution that they would *endeavor* to raise *ten* dollars to secure the labors of a minister two Sabbaths during the year. Such are some of the facts existing, incident to the settlement and progress of the state. These have doubtless given rise to some of the disparaging things that have been said long since, and have been repeated in modern times, taxing heavily even the "Charity which suffereth long and is kind." It will be the object of the writer, in a series of articles, to show that such opinions, if entertained, are unfounded, and merely indicate the ignorance or prejudice of those who express them.—N. Bot. 1854.

tioned he leased the store to Charles Snyder. About the year 1860 Grow & Jones (Platt F. Grow and B. J. Jones) began business there, continuing until the fall of 1860, when Mr. Grow died. The business was closed up and the remainder of the goods sold to Mr. Winslow. He continued in trade until 1868, when he sold the building to Joseph Burt. Howard Hubbard was associated with Burt for about a year, when Burt sold his interest to Wm. H. Smith. In the year 1869 A. H. Peckham became a member of the firm, which firm a year later sold the whole business to Mr. Hubbard. In the mean time the latter had transferred the building to Andrew Hutchings. In 1876 B. J. Jones bought the store of Mr. Hutchings, and it has since that time been occupied with mercantile business in the hands of S. K. Jones.

In the year 1868, a portion of the goods in the stock turned over to Joseph Burt came back into his possession. These he placed on sale in the building now occupied by Geo. H. Ladd as a shoe shop, where he continued until 1872. He then leased the Jones store for a year or two, going from there to his present location. Mr. Winslow has been postmaster since 1865, the office being kept in his store.

This record gives the history of the mercantile business of Virgil Corners as far as it is now accessible. There have been at different periods, small groceries or confectionery stores kept, but none of especial importance.

Physicians. — The first physician in the town was Elijah Hartson, but no details of his life are now accessible. He was, however, with Drs. Moore, Green and Worden, here before 1810 or 1812. Dr. John Wood was here about the latter year and lived where S. Bouton now resides, west of the village. Dr. Ryan came to town before 1820, in which year one of the most eminent physicians of the county took up his residence at Virgil Corners where he remained in successful practice during a period of more than fifty years; this was Dr. Horace Bronson. The ancestors of Dr. Bronson came from Scotland and he was born in Catskill, N. Y., Sept. 8th, 1796. His parents removed to Vernon, Oneida county, when he was four or five years old and became well-to-do farmers. Horace early evinced a natural taste for study, especially of natural history, in which he fortunately received encouragement from his parents. He entered Hamilton College, to which institution his father had already been a donor, and graduated in due time. He attended four full courses of medical lectures and took his degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Fairfield Medical College in 1819, then a famous institution of Western New York.

By the advice of Dr. Lewis Riggs, then of Homer, Dr. Bronson came to Virgil in 1820, as above stated, where he continued in practice until 1873, when he was incapacitated for further labor by the sickness which terminated his valuable life on the 30th of January, 1874. He became a member of the Cortland Medical Society in 1821. Dr. Bronson was possessed of much more than ordinary native ability and his acquired attainments were varied and useful. He was very industrious in his profession, a skillful practitioner and kind and forbearing towards his patients who found it difficult to pay for medical treatment. Dr. Bronson married Polly Ball by whom he had one son and two daughters. His second wife was Happy Mott, who now resides in Virgil Corners with her son-in-law, Charles Johnson.

Dr. C. P. Weaver came to Virgil next after Dr. Bronson, and was followed by Drs. Wilson and Robinson, who came between 1841 and 1848. The next physicians were

Drs. Wm. Fitch, now of Dryden, and Jay Ball, now of Cortland village.

In the spring of 1859 Dr. Wm. A. Muncey came to Virgil Corners from Waverly, Tioga county, N. Y., where he had pursued his studies and practiced one year in partnership with Dr. C. M. Nobles, with whom he had studied. In 1874 Dr. Muncey graduated from the American Medical University in Philadelphia, and in 1881–82 finished a course and graduated from the Eclectic Medical College of New York. He has been in constant practice in the town since his arrival. Dr. Chas. Laning came here at about the time Dr. Muncey came, but remained only for a short time.

Dr. John D. Tripp is a graduate of the Long Island College Hospital, from which institution he graduated in the year 1865, immediately after which he came to Virgil Corners. He has remained here ever since and enjoys an extensive practice and the confidence of the community.

Hotel. — There has never been but one hotel of much pretensions in Virgil Corners. The first record of it that we have been able to obtain is of the year 1820, when it was kept by John I. Gee. Ezra Bruce next kept it, but it is not known at just what date nor how long. Nathaniel Knapp kept it also for a time. Eleazer Carpenter, and Reese & Fink were also proprietors at an early day. In 1840 it was kept by Jerry Terpening; then by Morgan & Terpening, and again by Mr. Terpening alone. Lewis Barton kept it for a time. A man named Humphrey and Horace Wilcox also had charge of the house. Later William Chatterton kept it, it having meanwhile passed into possession of Dudley Benton, who made large additions and improvements in the buildings. William Benton then took the proprietorship of the house and was followed by Thomas Perkins for a short period, when the property came into possession of John D. Benton, who also made further improvements. In 1865–66 Culver & Gleason took the house but kept it for only a year or two, being followed by O. S. Withey. In 1869 Frank French took the house and was succeeded at different dates, which are not of special interest, by John J. Isaacs, Evans Griggs, Martin Maricle, T. Warren, John C. Keefe (1881), F. D. Haskell. At about this time the property passed into possession of Geo. W. Lason. A. T. Niver then leased it in 1882, and Mr. Lason took it in 1883. The present year (1884) John A. McKinney purchased the property and is now keeping the house to the satisfaction of the public.

A tavern was kept for a time before the last war in the large wooden structure locally known as "Bunker Hill," for a short time. This building was erected in the year 1804 by James Knapp. It served the double purpose, so it is said, of creating a good deal of astonishment among the inhabitants on account of its size and magnificence, and of ruining its builder. It now makes a convenient wagon shop and is owned by J. C. Seamans.

John Chamberlain kept something of a public house at an early day in the house now occupied as a residence by E. A. Crain. He was succeeded by a man named Traver, and Mr. Crain kept the house open to the public for a short time.

E. Winslow, who has already been often alluded to as one of the prominent merchants, was about the first if not the very first person to engage in harness-making in the village. This was in the year 1840. He was first located in the building that stood where Mr. Holton's store is now located. In 1845 he sold out the harness business to Jerome Hulbert (now a prominent citizen of Marathon village), to engage in the boot and shoe business. He remained in one-half of the store, selling

boots and shoes, until 1852, when he became a member of the firm of Winslow & Slafter, as before stated. After Mr. Hulbert moved away there was no harness-making in the village until N. A. Gardner came in 1869. He is still doing some work in his house. H. H. Branch began the business in 1876. He left the village early in the present year. Wayland Goodell is now working at the business in the second story of Peckham's store.

Wagon-making has been carried on in Virgil from a very early period. Timothy Woods was probably the first in the town and worked at the business before 1820. He was located north of the Corners and afterwards west of the "West Meeting-house." Archelaus Green was also engaged in this business before 1825. Jerry Tyler, now living at Virgil Corners, says that a Mr. Bryant, who was the father of Lewis Bryant, made wagons on Luce hill at an early date — probably as early as 1830. In 1838 he made a lumber wagon for him, which his son Allen is still using in a very good state of preservation. Phillip Colwell was a wagon-maker here before 1840, and Samuel Sikes had a small shop as early as that, a little north of where Ebenezer Perkins now lives. His old shop is now a part of Mr. Perkins's barn. The Sikes premises were purchased by Mr. Winslow in 1844. Ebenezer Perkins began wagon-making on Cortland street in the shop now occupied by M. B. Williams, which he built in the year 1843. He sold out to J. C. Seamans and he to Sylvester Crain in 1860. The business was continued there by Sylvester and E. A. Crain until 1875 when they sold out to J. C. Seamans. The Crains purchased the old Methodist church building in the year 1876–77 and removed it to its present location, where it has been used as a wagon shop and undertaking establishment since. M. B. Williams now works at the business in the shop formerly occupied by Mr. Perkins. Mr. Perkins has a shop in the old building formerly used as a store by Joseph Reynolds.

There are now three blacksmith shops in the village. One is operated by George Hicks, one by C. H. Seamans, and one by Geo. and J. C. Seamans. Michael Ehle was one of the early blacksmiths in the place. Isaac Seamans was the next, and built the shop now occupied by his son, I. M. Seamans. Before this shop was built Isaac Seamans was located near the Methodist parsonage. Ehle's shop was on the corner where Harry Williams now lives. The location of Hicks's shop was for several years occupied by Willlam Adamy with a blacksmith shop more than thirty years ago. Mr. Adamy is now a resident of Union, Broome county.

Joel Hancock was one of the early settlers in the village and was probably the first shoemaker here. After him David Sweet and Nathan Shultz were in the business. A man named Rogers had a shop near the Murdock tannery at an early day. Justin Smith was a shoemaker here before 1850, as was also a man named Simpkins. Geo. H. Ladd began work in this line in 1850, and has followed it ever since. N. R. Locke was in the business here from 1856 to 1860.[1]

There being no power obtainable from streams within the village, little has been done in manufacturing, and the isolation of the place from railroad communication has operated against its growth. It was formerly quite an important point on the stage route from Cortland to Owego, and in earlier years before trade was diverted to other distant points through the facilities for travel offered by railroads, there was

[1] Mr. Locke was the father of D. R. Locke, who has become famous as a writer under the *nom de plume* of "Petroleum V. Nasby." He is connected with the Toledo *Blade*.

more business done here, undoubtedly, than at the present time.

GRIDLEY HOLLOW

This little hamlet presents a vivid example of the rapid changes that are effected by time. It is still within the memory of many of the older citizens of Virgil, when there was much more manufacturing and mercantile business done here than there was at Virgil Corners. Now there is scarcely a pretense of either, outside of the substantial grist-mill.

Besides its name of "Gridley Hollow," derived from Reuben Gridley, who was one of the most prominent pioneers in that region, the hamlet has been known as East Virgil, and the post-office now bears that name. The place is situated on lot 49 near the southeast corner of the town, and the stream that has been called "Gridley creek" runs directly through it. High and precipitous hills rise directly from the settlement, on the north and south, while the bed of the creek in that vicinity has cut a deep and narrow ravine through the rocky formation in that region, adding much to the otherwise romantic scenery of the place.

The names of many of the early settlers at this point have already been given. The first mill was built by a Mr. Vandenberg in 1819, on or near the site now occupied by the mill of E. D. Angell. A saw-mill was also built at the same point and by the same man. This property passed into the hands of Reuben Gridley at an early day and he operated them for a period of about ten years. He subsequently removed to the State of Michigan, where he died. The present stone mill was built by Gaius Rudd, in the year 1856, after the disastrous flood of that year had swept away every mill and bridge between Virgil Corners and the river at the State Bridge. Rudd occupied the grist-mill, the saw-mill having been abandoned, until the present owner, E. D. Angell, bought it; he is successful in its operation.

Abram Van Buskirk was an early settler in the Hollow on the place which afterward passed into possession of Andrew Brusie at an early day. He was an enterprising and more than ordinarily intelligent and energetic man. He built a forge on the creek, which he successfully operated by water power for many years, the quality of his iron attaining an excellent reputation. He was a justice of the peace for several years. The great flood swept away the forge and it was not rebuilt. Mr. Brusie and his family finally removed from the town.

The first merchant in the Hollow was William Gray. He built a store on the south side of the creek and did a large business. Hiram J. Messenger, now of Cortland village, became his partner, but the firm soon dissolved and Mr. Messenger built the store on the opposite side of the stream, and continued business there for several years, finally removing to Messengerville, after the completion of the railroad. Mr. Gray continued in business until 1849, when he was attacked with cholera after returning from New York, where he had just purchased a large stock of goods. He died suddenly and his business was closed up. Among his sons were H. C. Gray, now of Harford Mills; Frank Gray, of Janesville, Wis.; Alonzo Gray, of Watkins, N. Y., and Jesse Gray, of Cortland. Wm. Gray was the first postmaster in Gridley Hollow (or East Virgil), established in 1845.

Alexander McVean was an early settler at the Hollow and was justice of the peace for a period of forty years. He was, in connection with Isaac Benton, owner of the saw-mill before it was swept away. Mr. Benton was born in the town at an early day, and carried on wagon-making and

blacksmithing at the Hollow, employing a number of hands and doing a large business. James McVean also had a blacksmith shop there at one time, and Wm. H. Johnson carried on a tailor shop, while Jonathan Potter did the shoemaking for the vicinity. After the death of Mr. Gray, Isaac Bloomer removed to the Hollow and occupied the store until it was carried away in 1856. About the year 1832 Hiram Baker built a saw-mill a mile and a half west of the Hollow, and there was still another near that point. In 1837 Isaac Bloomer built a saw-mill a mile west of the Hollow; but as the forests became cleared away there was less demand for such mills, and all that was left of them to be carried away by the flood went down in that calamity and they were not rebuilt.

At the time that Gridley owned and operated the mill in the Hollow, he also ran a distillery, which did a profitable business; and another smaller one was located directly on the top of Snider Hill, which was owned by Christopher Rorabacher.

A church was built at the Hollow in 1844, by the union of the members of the several denominations in that vicinity. It finally passed under the charge of the Methodists, as before detailed. Services are now conducted there by the Rev. H. W. Williams, of the Virgil Corners Methodist Church.

In early years, and until the opening of the road through the Hollow to connect with the State road (about the years 1833–34), the Hollow was reached only from the north and south, down the steep hills; consequently the opening of this road was looked upon as a great improvement. The diversion of trade to Virgil Corners and later to other points on the railroads, has reduced Gridley Hollow to a mere hamlet, with very little pretense of business of any kind, outside of the mill and a small store kept by John Lewis, who is also the present postmaster.

MESSENGERVILLE.

This is a hamlet and station on the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York Railroad, and on lot 50 in the southeastern corner of the town, near the western bank of the Tioughnioga river. A small hamlet and a tavern existed near there before the completion of the railroad, known as State Bridge, from the fact that the bridge over the river on the State road is located at that point. When the railroad was finished there promised to be some trade and shipping attracted to this station, and H. J. Messenger, who had been in business at Gridley Hollow, built a store there and began trade. He has been succeeded by several others, among whom are Dickinson & Husted, Mr. Husted alone, Lincoln & Wait, and now by the Seamans Brothers.

One of the first saw-mills in the town was built near this station by a man named Blaisdell, which was swept away in the flood of 1856 and was not rebuilt. A steam saw-mill was erected at a later date by Eli Husted, which was burned a few years ago. Walter L. Chaplin is the postmaster at Messengerville.

FRANK'S CORNERS.

This is a mere hamlet situated about a mile south of Virgil Corners. It was here that the pioneer, John M. Frank, first located, giving the place its name. Prominent among the early settlers in the immediate vicinity was Charles Hotchkiss, who settled at an early day where his son, Alonzo, now lives. He had three sons, Alonzo, Devolso and Wolcott. The former is one of the prominent farmers of the town and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Marenus Terpening and his brother Noah settled early just north of Mr. Hotchkiss, where they lived many years.

Caleb Whiting, who located at what is known as Babcock Hollow at an early day, removed to Frank's Corners and for many years carried on an extensive marble-working business. He was on the premises now occupied by George Dann, and now lives in Cayuga county.

A man named Asel Cannon had a blacksmith shop at this point many years ago, and Chester Simons carried on the business there at a later period for many years. John Ehle has also worked at the business recently.

Lester Holton, father of W. A. and Rufus Holton, of Virgil, and Mark and Luke Holton, of Cortland village, followed wagon-making at Frank's Corners many years ago. A small store was kept there by Wm. H. Smith for a few years during the last war.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of Virgil from the first organization to the present time. The supervisor's name is given first in each instance:—

Moses Rice, Gideon Messenger, 1805–06; James Roe, Abner Bruce, 1807–09; James Roe, Moses Rice, 1810; Moses Rice, James Roe, 1811; Moses Rice, James Chatterton, 1812 to 1816, inclusive; Gideon Messenger, James Chatterton, 1817 to 1819, inclusive; Gideon Messenger, Alvan Ryan, 1820; Gideon Messenger, James Chatterton, 1821 to 1824, inclusive; Joseph Reynolds, Wm. Snider, 1825 to 1830, inclusive; Gideon Messenger, Wm. Snider, 1831; Joseph Reynolds, Kinne Grow, 1832; Joseph Reynolds, Wm. Woodward, 1833–34; Michael Frank, Wm. Woodward, 1835–36; Sanford Bouton, Augustus Heberd, 1837; Josiah Hart, John Chamberlain, 1838; Sanford Bouton, Augustus Heberd, 1839–40; Timothy Green, John Chamberlain, 1841; Ogden Gray, Norman Chamberlain, 1842–43; Timothy Green, Norman Chamberlain, 1844; Timothy Green, Augustus Heberd, 1845; Enoch Branch, Norman Chamberlain, 1846; John Green, Wm. Chatterton, 1847; Dudley Benton, Wait Chamberlain, 1848; Moses Tyler, Willard Chatterton, 1849; Page Green, Willard Chatterton, 1850; John Green, Samuel Slafter, 1851; Madison B. Mynard, David L. Bronson, 1852; Hiram Messenger, Willard Chatterton, 1853; Josephus Gee, Willard Chatterton, 1854; Isaac Raymond, Willard Chatterton, 1855; Andrew Brusie, Alonzo Snider, 1856; Jonas Owen, Samuel Slafter, 1857; Enoch Willet, Samuel Slafter, 1858; Nathan Spencer, Samuel Slafter, 1859; Josephus Gee, Platt F. Grow, 1860; Josephus Gee, Charles P. Snider, 1861; Nathan Spencer, Alexander Mahan, 1862; Roswell, Price, Alexander Mahan, 1863; Roswell Price, Eber Sweet, 1864; Nathan Spencer, G. H. Ladd, 1865; Nathan Smith, Alexander Collins, 1866; Roswell Price, Howard Hubbard, 1867–68; Nathan Bouton, Chas. Williams, 1869; S. M. Byram, Charles Williams, 1870–71; Roswell Price, A. H. Peckham, 1872–73; Roswell Price, W. A. Muncey, 1874; J. D. Tripp, W. A. Holton, 1875; Roswell Price, A. H. Peckham, 1876; Roswell Price, H. H. Branch, 1877; Roswell Price, J. O. Seamans, 1878; W. P. Mynard, J. O. Seamans, 1879; W. P. Mynard, A. H. Peckham, 1880; Walter Chaplin, A. H. Peckham, 1881 to 1883, inclusive; Walter Chaplin, E. A. Crain, 1884.

CHAPTER XXII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF MARATHON.

THE town of Marathon was formed from Cincinnatus April 21st, 1818. It was first called "Harrison," and embraced the southwest quarter of the military township of Cincinnatus. Its name was changed to Marathon in 1828, in consequence of there being another town in the State named Harrison. It was first named in honor of General Harrison. It is bounded on the north by Freetown, on the east by Willet, on the south by Broome county and on the west by Lapeer.

The surface of the town is rugged and hilly, the ridges rising from 500 to 700 feet above the valleys. The Tioughnioga river flows through the western part of the township in a deep, narrow valley, bordered by precipitous hillsides. Hunt creek, in the northwestern part of the town, flows through a narrow, deep valley, and Merrill creek, in the eastern part, flows through a similar valley. The principal part of the arable land lies along the valleys; the uplands are broken and better adapted to pasturage. The soil is a sandy and gravelly loam.

Marathon village is the only considerable business center of the town. Texas valley, in the northeastern part of the town, was laid out first and, it being on the State road and central to the four towns of Cincinnatus, Freetown, Willet and Marathon, was formerly regarded as the most probable site of a thriving business center; but it is now a mere hamlet, while Marathon contains a population of 1,100, and is a growing and active business place.

Dr. S. M. Hunt, of Marathon village, has written some interesting historical notes upon this town, from which we make the following extracts: —

"The first white men who entered this valley in search of future homes were mostly from the New England States, the eastern counties of this State or some portion of the Susquehanna Valley. They cut out a narrow path near the river and marked trees as an additional guide to their way; erected some rudely constructed log-cabins and then returned for their families. They brought them in canoes by the way of the Susquehanna river, the greater part from a distance above, the others from below, its junction with the Chenango. This entire section of the country was then

'A vast wilderness, —
A boundless contiguity of shade'

well adapted as a lodge for the longing aspirations of the poet, Cowper. They severally by severe toil and indomitable energy succeeded in clearing and planting a small piece of ground with corn among the stumps and roots, which, when matured, became the staple article of food for their families. But when the corn was harvested they had no means of reducing it to meal, except by beating it in a mortar, which was usually constructed by scooping out the top of a stump, above which they suspended a pestle adapted to the size of the mortar; attached it to a spring-pole, the elasticity of which aided in raising the pestle. Yet this substitute for grinding afforded but a slow and very laborious process. There was then no grist-mill within fifty miles of them. Occasionally two of the neighbors joined in going to mill with a canoe, taking several bushels of corn for the settlement, making rather a pleasant trip down the stream, but, not unlike boys riding down hill on hand-sleds, their return to the starting point was slow and attended with

considerable labor. The nearest mill was then located somewhere on the Susquehanna river.

"The timber of the town was generally of large size and when felled and cut into suitable lengths was drawn together, rolled into heaps and burned. The flats were mostly covered with hard timber, such as maple, beech, ash, etc., which was reduced to ashes with less labor than hemlock, which more usually grew on the sides of the hills, and when in a green state tenaciously resists combustion. The latter timber, when consumed, afforded no deposits of any value; but the ashes from hard timber were collected, leached and boiled into 'black salts,' a staple article of commerce and at that time constituting about the only article they had to sell for cash or exchange for goods.

"Their fruit was of the wild kinds, such as berries of the different species. They had no apples, pears or plums for many years, except such few as occasionally were brought in by some person returning from an eastern visit. They dispensed with tea and coffee and most of the groceries now in use, excepting sugar and molasses of their own domestic manufacture from the sugar maple.

"Of fresh meats they procured a variety, such as venison and bear's flesh, and of the lesser quadrupeds of the woods and wild game of the different kinds, as well as the several species of fish which the streams afforded in great abundance. While wild game could so readily be obtained, they could well dispense with the flesh of domestic animals, of which they had but few in number, and none to spare for the butcher. Their cattle in the summer season subsisted on wild herbage and in winter on cornstalks, swamp hay and browse.

"Residing at such distances from any settlement where goods could be purchased, they were obliged to dispense with many of the conveniences, if not the actual necessaries, of life. Their clothing was of coarse fabrics, usually flannel, home-spun, carded by hand and colored with butternut bark, for their outer garments. Their skirting was of the same material woven into checks; as a substitute for flannel they sometimes wore buff-colored buckskin for coats, pants and vests. In summer tow cloth comprised their entire dress. At a subsequent period domestic fulled cloth was worn as their best suits for many years.

"Such was the condition of the pioneers of this section of the country in reference to food and clothing. Accustomed to coarse, simple food and constant habits of industry, the pioneers enjoyed a good degree of health, strong, athletic constitutions, and were capable of performing much more labor than a comparative number of their descendants in these degenerate times. But while their corporal powers were strengthened, the mental faculties and appliances were not much improved. With the exception of the Bible, very few books of any kind could be found in the neighborhood. Though destitute of most of the conveniences of life, they participated more freely in the domestic and social blessings than the residents of a densely populated community. Free from the pride of dress and ostentation, they envied no man's superior success, but each contributed aid towards his neighbor's prosperity and happiness. They had a reputation for honesty, benevolence and usefulnes while living, and died respected.

"There being no mail routes or post-offices in this entire region of country at the period under consideration, no letters or newspapers were received, except occasionally by private conveyance. As late as during the last war with England a small weekly country paper was brought into town by a man on horseback and sold

to persons anxious to hear the news from the war."

The first actual settlers of this town were Dr. Japheth Hunt and wife, both aged people, two sons, James and William, and three daughters, Betsey, Nancy and Hannah. The advanced age of the parents disqualified them as pioneers of a new country and unfitted them to encounter the hardships and privations incident to such an enterprise. Their children, however, were of mature age, of robust constitutions, and possessed energy of character, which enabled them to accomplish the laborious duties which now devolved upon them. They entered the valley of the Tioughnioga from the south, in canoes, in the year 1794, and located on a piece of land on the east side of the river, about a mile south of the present village of Marathon, since known as the Comstock farm and now owned by Edward Moore. Their log house was erected a few miles north of Mr. Moore's barn, on a knoll, or rolling piece of ground, immediately west, and near the present highway. Upon this rising ground were discovered a great number of excavations or depressions, of circular form, in close proximity, rendering the surface of the ground uneven. Each of these depressions, upon examination, was found to contain human bones, which had, apparently, been deposited there for several preceding centuries. Upon removing the road a few years since, from the top to the base of this hill, some of these depressions were opened by the plow, and were found to contain not only human bones, but several curiously carved vessels or pots, of a substance resembling clay, probably wrought by the Indians to contain succotash, or boiled corn and beans, deposited in the grave, as is their custom, to supply their departed friends in their journey to the world of spirits.

About the time that Dr. Hunt's family settled here a road was surveyed and partially cut through the wilderness from the south, near the river, until passing their land, when, diverging from the stream, it crossed the south line of lot number 72, about three-fourths of a mile east of the village of Marathon, and continuing in a northerly direction, intersected the State road at the farm recently owned by Mr. Charles Richardson, of Freetown, and extending north to its terminus at the salt works, which gave it the name of the "salt road."

Another road, about this period, was surveyed and partially opened as a State road, by the way of Oxford westerly through the center of the town subsequently organized as Cincinnatus, and consequently on the north line of the present town of Marathon, and crossing the river at Chaplin's ford, now known as State Bridge, and thence westerly through the county by Virgil Corners.

Dr. Hunt was an emigrant from one of the New England States, and had served his country in the Revolutionary War, in capacity of surgeon. He died March 7th, 1808, at the advanced age of 97, and was the first person buried in the east burying ground of Marathon. His son William married Anna, daughter of Matthew Cole, an early settler on a farm adjoining the southern line, being the present residence of Col. Lucian E. Crain. His son James was never married, and died at Genoa, Cayuga county. His daughter, Nancy, married Abram Smith, and died about forty-five years since, leaving three children. Betsey Hunt married Oliver Mack, of Genoa, and Hannah, the youngest daughter, married Nathan Thorp, of the same place.

Wm. Hunt, some time after the death of his father, sold the farm and located again two miles north of Marathon village, where

Stephen Johnson now resides, but finally emigrated with his sisters from Genoa to the "far West," to some part of Indiana. In the latter part of the winter of 1796 John, the eldest son of Dr. Hunt, who had married Lydia, the daughter of Major Samuel Mallory, of Hillsdale, Columbia county, was induced to move from that place into the new country in the vicinity of his father's residence. A man with horses and sleigh was employed to bring his effects and family, which then comprised himself and wife, one daughter three years of age, and a son of six months. After several days' travel over rough roads, they arrived at Oxford, then a new settlement on the Chenango river, where their teamster left them and turned back in consequence of poor sleighing produced by a thaw. Mr. Hunt, having one horse of his own, harnessed him to a hastily constructed sled, and placed a bed and a few necessary articles of furniture and provisions, with his wife and children thereon, started westwardly by the way of the State road for the place of his destination. The first day they proceeded about seventeen miles into the wilderness on this rough road, passing over several of the smaller logs which had not yet been removed from the path, when night overtook them in a dense forest, which soon became vocal with the sounds of wild animals. Fortunately they soon came to a log cabin, recently erected, covered with bark, and having a floor of slats split from logs, with a place for an entrance, but destitute of a door to exclude the air. By means of his gun and tinder he kindled a fire, and placed his horse close to the opening, with his provender in the sled, which served for a manger, and having hung up a blanket at the entrance, and placed their bed on the floor, being very weary, he retired to rest, and slept comfortably through the night. But his wife, unaccustomed to such privations, was less inclined to sleep. The howling of the wolves also annoyed her, and she wondered how her husband could sleep so composedly in such a dismal place. The next morning they resumed their journey, and before noon came to the Otselic river, and were cheered with the sight of a house on the opposite side of the stream. This proved to be the residence of Wm. Tuthill, who kindly assisted them in crossing the river, and hospitably entertained them till the next day. This was at a farm subsequently owned by Ebenezer Crittenden. From this place they traveled west till they came to the intersection of the salt road, when, turning south along the latter path, at a distance of four miles they found the new home of his parents and family. His goods were subsequently brought in canoes from Oxford down the Chenango river to the Forks, and up this branch (then generally called the Onondaga) to their new location.

John Hunt purchased one hundred acres out of the southwest corner of lot No. 72, and moved his family there, being on the east side of the river, upon which a large portion of Marathon village is located. Here his second son, Samuel M. Hunt, was born October 30th, 1793, being the first child born in this town. When a young man he chose the profession of medicine, and pursued that study with Dr. P. B. Brooks, afterwards of Binghamton. He has practiced medicine for thirty years, principally in Broome county; but for three years past he has been located in Marathon village, on the same premises formerly the residence of his parents.

As early as the beginning of the present century John Hunt was appointed by the governor and council a justice of the peace; which office he held by successive appointments to the period of his death, which occurred August 8th, 1815, at the age of fifty

years. His widow is still living, in the eighty-fifth year of her age. Their eldest daughter married Mr. Charles Richardson, of Freetown, and is now residing in the village of Marathon. Two other daughters are yet living. Four others of their children lived to be married and settled in this section of the country, but are now deceased. Abram Brink with his family moved into the present bounds of the village in the spring of 1800, and located a few rods south of Mr. Hunt's, on the north part of lot No. 82, then State land. He came from the present town of Union, below Binghamton, on the Susquehanna river, bringing his family and furniture in a canoe. He was a son of Captain William Brink, a patriot of the Revolution, who had suffered much by the depredations of tories in the war at Wyoming, and subsequently lost a great amount of property by the great ice-flood in that valley. Abram Brink was a robust and industrious citizen, and a valuable pioneer in clearing up the rugged wilderness, and preparing it for the residence of posterity. He kept the first tavern ever licensed in this town, from the commencement of the present century up to the time of his decease in 1824. Intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, were at that time considered as necessary as food in a tavern for the refreshment of guests; and although their deleterious effects were visible, not only in the physical, moral and mental prostration of all who indulged in the potation, yet the traffic was for a long period sustained by public sentiment and by the laws of the State. Mr. Brink was succeeded in the tavern by his only surviving son, Chester, for a few years, when, influenced by a strong aversion to dealing in intoxicating liquors, he relinquished the business and employed himself in cultivating and improving the same farm, and some other adjoining lands, which he had acquired by purchase.

A few years previous to the arrival of Mr. Brink here a family by the name of Alford had settled about three-fourths of a mile south, on the State's lot, and some years after sold out to Daniel Huntley, a son of Deacon William Huntley, who resided for several years on the next farm south. A man by the name of Lee also lived a few years on the premises of Mr. Alford, having married his daughter. At the close of the last century a traveler from the north, in passing down this valley, after leaving the fordway at Chaplin's, would find the following residents on the east side of the river:— First, the family of Mr. Hunt; second, Mr. Brink; third, Mr. Alford and Mr. Lee; next, Dr. Hunt, and lastly, Mr. Cole, within this county. South and near the county line on the east side of the river, was the residence of General Samuel Coe, and directly opposite, on the west bank, was the house of Jonathan Cowdrey.

Soon after this period John S. Squires located on a farm south of Mr. Alford, but shortly after purchased a farm in the present town of Lapeer, and removed his family there into the forest at quite a distance from neighbors, it being the same farm where his son, Dan C. Squires, afterward resided. About the year 1800 Ebenezer Carley moved into this town from Unadilla, and located on the west side of the river, where his son Alanson subsequently resided. He was commissioned captain of militia company number one, organized in this section of the country. He had a large family of children. Ezekiel C. became a captain of the militia and also held the office of justice of the peace. Of this large family none are now living except two brothers, Alanson and Oren.

It would be a difficult task, at this remote period, to ascertain the precise date of the arrival of each family of the first settlers here, as far back as the close of the last cen-

tury, or the regular order as to the priority of time, in every case, when they entered this valley. In February of the year 1805 Patrick Mallery, who some years after became a captain of militia, a brother of 'Squire Hunt's wife, arrived here with his wife and one child, and settled on the farm one mile north of Marathon village, afterwards occupied by G. Pennoyer. He resided a few weeks with his sister's family, while erecting a log house for the reception of his own. This was early in the spring, when each family was actively employed in manufacturing maple sugar. To secure a supply of such an important article for domestic use, it became necessary for him to tap his trees prior to furnishing his house. The farm was situated mostly on the west side of the river, and his maple trees were on the flat, directly across the stream. Being busily engaged one day, assisted by his wife, in gathering and boiling sap, they were detained until approaching darkness reminded them that it was time to start for home. They entered their canoe and had just reached the eastern shore and found the narrow path that led down to the stream to Mr. Hunt's, when, to their surprise and consternation, their ears were saluted with the most clamorous, violent and discordant sounds, from directly across the river, they had ever heard. The woods were apparently full of monsters in pursuit of them, as their intended victims, and engaged in fiendish strife respecting the several shares of the spoils. How to escape from these monstrous cannibals was the subject of anxious thought and hasty deliberation. Mrs. Mallery advised a rapid retreat; but her husband, being a very stout man, and wishing to retain his reputation for bravery, had a great aversion to "an attack in the rear." He therefore firmly grasped his axe, which he carried in his hand as an instrument of defense, and cautiously followed his wife, who alternately ran forward a few rods with speed and then fell back again, urging him to make a more rapid progress. Notwithstanding the captain's resolute intentions, it is probable that the march was not very slow; and they soon reached the house of their friends without suffering an attack, and gave the alarm of the approaching enemy. But they were soon relieved of their fears, though somewhat mortified to learn that these savage monsters were nothing more than a class of nocturnal birds called owls, incapable of injuring either man or beast.

Dr. S. M. Hunt, son of Dr. Japheth Hunt, was born in Marathon, on the 30th of October, 1798. His grandfather settled on the farm now owned by A. S. Johnson, known as the Comstock place. His father settled on the east side of the river where the Marathon House now stands; there S. M. Hunt was born. He finished his education in the Homer Academy, then one of the most famous educational institutions in Central New York. He studied medicine with Dr. Pelatiah Brooks and, after receiving his diploma, practiced his chosen profession in Killawog, Upper Lisle, Maine and Marathon. He held the office of justice of the peace, judge of the Court of Common Pleas and justice of the sessions. In 1852 he returned to Marathon, where he afterwards resided, with the exception of a few years at Killawog. He was married, at the age of twenty-three, to Maria Havens, daughter of Mordecai Havens and sister of Dr. Daniel and Charles G. Havens, the latter a prominent lawyer of New York city. Their children were D. Deloss and Duray Hunt, now of Marathon, and Dr. De Forest Hunt, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Mrs. C. A. King, of Albany. Dr. Hunt was a charter member of the Masonic Lodge at Marathon, which suffered an irreparable loss in his death.

According to Dr. Hunt's historical notes, already alluded to, mills for sawing lumber and grinding grain were not erected in Marathon until 1808, although the want of them was sadly felt long before that. They were the first framed buildings on the site of Marathon village. Malachi Church emigrated to Marathon in 1805, from Chenango county, a distance of about forty miles. This journey was accomplished in three days of severe toil. He was born in Brattleboro, Vt., on the 15th of May, 1769, and at the age of twenty married Lucy Blakeslee; they had a large family of children. He was a blacksmith, but upon his arrival in the place, found little encouragement for a mechanic, as there were then but a few residents. Ten or twelve years after his arrival he built a framed house and shop on the west side of the river a few rods from the site of the railroad depot. There, with the assistance of his sons, he carried on blacksmithing several years. In 1815 he was made a justice of the peace and held the office for many years. He was also made a deacon in the Baptist Church in 1823 and filled the office until his death in November, 1846.

Deacon Huntley, another prominent pioneer, came into the valley at an early day and located about a mile south of the village, where he worked at blacksmithing for a time. His son John was also a blacksmith.

Allen Rice was an early settler in the valley, and seeing the apparent need of a blacksmith, put up a small shop, the first in the town. Although he had not a thorough knowledge of the trade, he did considerable work at it for a time, and then moved away. He afterwards returned and built a shop for wool-carding, near where D. Hillsinger's mill now stands. This proved to be a great convenience to the inhabitants.

An incident in the life of Mr. Brink, whose settlement in the village we have already described, is worthy of preservation. He was returning from Lisle on foot one evening, with a plowshare on his back, which he had taken to be repaired, and had just entered the woods on the west side of the river north of Killawog, when he heard an animal following his footsteps along the narrow path, and approaching at times so near to him that he could see his eye-balls shining in the darkness. Mr. Brink's sociability was not such as to incline him to a very close acquaintance with the stranger, and keeping on his way he tried to drive the animal back by loud shouts; but without avail. He did, however, keep the pursuer at bay until he had nearly emerged from the woods, when the animal came uncomfortably close to his heels. It was a happy thought which led him to lay down the iron plowshare and begin hammering on it with an iron bolt. This strange music actually caused the animal to retreat into the forest. Mr. Brink congratulated himself the more when he learned that his pursuer was a large panther.

About the year 1808, John Chamberlain moved into the town and built a saw-mill on the creek at the same place where David Hillsinger's saw-mill now stands. Mr. Chamberlain was a carpenter, but had little experience as millwright; yet he erected his mill, put in the wheels and gearing and all worked to his satisfaction, except the saw. This persisted in running out of a direct line to such an extent that a plank two inches thick at one end, would be cut down as thin as a shingle at the other. Mr. Chamberlain was unable to correct the difficulty, and finally became fully convinced that the mill was influenced by witchcraft, a general belief in which was prevalent in those days. He was a godly man, subsequently becoming a useful

preacher in the Free-Will Baptist denomination, and he was not willing to believe that any good influence was at work in his mill; and he had heard of many apparently well authenticated instances of similar evil being worked through the agency of witches; the more he thought of it, the more firmly he became convinced that this was the source of his trouble in the mill, and he resolved to do everything in his power to eradicate the influence. He accepted the prevailing belief that a witch could not be killed with ordinary powder and ball, but that if a silver bullet was used, fatal results would surely follow. He accordingly hammered out a silver bullet, put a remarkable charge of powder in his gun, followed by the costly ball, and repaired to the mill for his battle with the invisible agency. Starting the saw, he stood near, with leveled gun, awaiting the first indication of waywardness in the mill. It soon appeared as usual, when he blazed away directly at the saw. The effect was certainly all he could have expected; for the extraordinary charge caused the gun to "kick" him over in one direction, while the hard silver bullet so bent the saw in the other that its days of usefulness were over. The effect on the witch was never ascertained. The services of an experienced millwright now had to be called in, and the mill was placed in excellent running order and thereafter it worked satisfactorily.

In the year 1808, the father of Thurlow Weed, the famous politician and journalist, removed to the town of Marathon, and there the boyhood of the future eminent citizen was passed. In response to the request of H. C. Goodwin, who published a history of the county many years ago, Mr. Weed, then a resident of the city of Albany, wrote him the following interesting letter concerning his early life in the vicinity of Marathon:—

"ALBANY, May 16th, 1858.

"H. C. GOODWIN, Esq.:

"*My Dear Sir*—Your letter of 30th of April has remained quite too long unanswered, partly on account of severe illness in my family, but mainly because your kind and not unusual request embarrasses me. Several applications, similar in character, from book-makers, I have simply declined, because, first, there is nothing in my life entitled to historic attention; and, second, if any of its events were worthy such attention, it is neither proper or becoming in me to furnish the materials. So strong are my convictions of propriety in this regard that, many years ago, after declining to furnish information relating to myself, asked for by the late Jabez D. Hammond, I declined also to read in manuscript what he had prepared. The consequence of that refusal is, that I go down to posterity—if Hammond's political history outlives the present generation—as a 'drummer in the war of 1812.' Now, I am entitled to no such distinction; for I never learned, and never could learn, a note or stave of music. I remember to have gone, when a boy, once or twice to an evening singing-school; but after unavailing attempts at quavers and semi-quavers, the teacher snatched the gamut from my hand, and turned me out of the class. I will, however, in this instance, depart so far from my usual practice as will allow me to furnish the dates you desire, though in doing so, I feel as I suppose one should feel in robbing a hen-roost. I will now give you some 'reminiscences' connected with my early residence in Cortland county.

"In the winter of 1808, my father,—an honest, hard-working man,—whose industry, subject to the various draw-backs of sickness and ill-luck, which the poor only can understand, enabled him to furnish but a scanty support for his family, in the hope of 'bettering his condition,' removed to Cincinnatus, in Cortland county, where Nathan Weed, his youngest brother, resided. We were settled in a log house, upon a small clearing, about a mile from the Onondaga river; or, for the purpose of fixing our locality, I had better say, about that distance from 'Brink's Tavern.' Cincinnatus then, whatever may be its present condition, was in its almost wilderness state. I have not been there

in half a century, and am told that there are no forests, or land-marks, or monuments by which I could recall or identify the localities of which my mind retains familiar and distinct impressions. Inhabitants were then 'few and far between.' Our nearest neighbor was Mr. Gridley, a farmer, rather 'well to do in the world,' who would work hard through 'planting,' or 'hoeing,' or 'harvesting,' and then seek indemnity in a week or ten days' 'spree,' on new, raw whisky. The most fore-handed family in the neighborhood was that of Captain Carley, (one member of which, Alanson, then a boy of my own age, was, some years since, a respected Member of the Legislature), among whose luxuries, as I remember, was a young apple orchard, and the only 'bearing' orchard within a circuit of several miles.

"My first employment was in attendance upon an ashery. The process of extracting lye from ashes, and of boiling the lye into black salts, was commonplace enough; but when the melting down into potash came, all was bustle and excitement. This labor was succeeded, when the spring had advanced far enough, by the duties of the 'sap-bush.' This is a season to which the farmers' sons and daughters look forward with agreeable anticipations. In that employment toil is more than literally sweetened. The occupation and its associations are healthful and beneficial. When your troughs are dug (out of basswood, for there were no buckets in those days), your trees tapped, your sap gathered, your wood cut, and your fires fed, there is leisure either for reading or 'sparking.' And what youthful denizens of the sap-bush will ever forget, while 'sugaring-off,' their share in the transparent and delicious streak of candy congealed and cooled in snow? Many a farmer's son has found his best opportunities for mental improvement in his intervals of leisure while 'tending sap-bush.' Such, at any rate, was my own experience. At night you had only to feed the kettles and keep up your fires—the sap having been gathered and the wood cut 'before dark.' During the day we would also lay in a good stock of fat pine, by the light of which, blazing brightly in front of the sugar-house, in the posture the serpent was condemned to assume as a penalty for tempting our great first grandmother, I have passed many and many a delightful night in reading. I remember in this way to have read a history of the French Revolution, and to have obtained from it a better and more enduring knowledge of its events and horrors, and of the actors in that great national tragedy, than I have received from all subsequent readings. I remember also how happy I was in being able to borrow the book of a Mr. Keyes, after a two mile tramp through the snow, shoeless, my feet swaddled in remnants of a rag-carpet.

"Though but a boy, I was large, healthy, strong, not lazy, and, therefore, ambitious 'to keep up my row' in planting and hoeing potatoes and corn. The principal employment of the farmers of Cincinnatus, fifty years ago, was in clearing their land. Cattle, during the winter, for the want of 'fodder,' were turned out to 'browse' in the 'slashings.' As the work of clearing the land was too heavy for men single-handed, chopping and logging 'bees' were resorted to for aggregating labor. These seasons of hard work were rendered exciting and festive by the indispensable gallon bottle of whisky. There were 'bees' also for log house raisings. After the loggings, and as the spring opened, came the burning of the log and brush-heaps, and the gathering of the ashes.

"But little wheat was grown there then, and that little was harvested with the sickle, the ground being too rough and stumpy for cradling.

"Our first acquisition in the way of 'live stock' was a rooster and four hens; and I remember with what a gush of gladness I was awakened at break of day the next morning by the loud, defiant voice of chanticleer; and when, several days afterwards, I found a real hen's nest in a brush-heap, with eggs in it, I cackled almost as boisterously as the feathered mother whom I had surprised in the feat of parturition.

"The settlers employed in clearing and 'bettering' their land, raised just enough to live on 'from hand to mouth.' Their principal, and, indeed, only reliance for the purchase of necessaries from 'the store,' was upon their 'black salts.' For these the merchants always paid 'the highest price in cash or goods.'

"I remember the stir which a 'new store,' established in Lisle (some seven or eight miles

down the river), by the Rathbuns, from Oxford, created in our neighborhood. It was 'all the talk' for several weeks, and until a party of house-wives, by clubbing with their products, fitted out an expedition. Vehicles and horses were scarce, but it was finally arranged,— A, furnishing a wagon; B, a horse; C, a mare, and D, a boy to drive. Six matrons, with a commodity of black salts, tow cloth, flax, and maple sugar, went their way rejoicing, and returned triumphantly at sun-set with fragrant Bohea for themselves, plug tobacco for their husbands, flashy calico for the children, gay ribbons for the girls, jack-knives for the boys, crockery for the cupboard, and snuff for 'grannie.' This expedition was a theme for much gossip. The wonders of the 'new store' were described to staring eyes and open mouths. The merchant and his clerk were criticised in their deportment, manners and dress. The former wore shiny boots with tassels; the latter, a ruffle shirt,— and both smelt of pomatum! I do not believe that the word 'dandy' had then been invented, or it would have certainly come in play on that occasion. Thirty years afterwards I laughed over all this with my old friend, General Ransom Rathbun, the veritable proprietor of that 'new store.'

"The grinding of our neighborhood was done at 'Hunt's mill,' which on one occasion was disabled by some defect in the flume or dam, and then we were compelled to go with our grists either to Homer or to 'Chenango Forks.'

"I recollect, on more than one occasion, to have seen boys riding with a bushel of corn (bare-back, with a tow halter) to the distillery, and returning with the gallon bottle of whisky, balanced by a stone in the other end of the bag.

"In the autumn following our removal to Cincinnatus I had 'worked out' and earned leather (sole and upper) enough for a pair of shoes, which were to be made by a son of Crispin (Deacon Badger, if I remember rightly), who lived on the river a mile and a half away. The deacon, I doubt not, has gone to his rest, and I forgive him the fibs he told, and the dozen journeys I made barefooted over the frozen and 'hubby' road in December, before the shoes were done.

"I attended one regimental review, or 'general training,' as it was called. It was an eminently primitive one. Among the officers were two chapeaux, to which Captain Carley, one of the two, added a sword and sash; four feathers standing erect upon felt hats; fifteen or twenty muskets; half a dozen rifles; two horse drums, and as many 'spirit-stirring fifes.' Of rank and file, there were about two hundred and fifty. In the way of refreshments, there were gingerbread, blackberry pies, and whisky. But there was neither 'sweat-leather,' 'little jokers,' or other institutions of that character, upon the ground. Having, before leaving Catskill, seen with my own eyes a live governor (Morgan Lewis) review a whole brigade, I regarded that training as a decided failure.

"There were no events at all startling during my residence at Cincinnatus,— no murders, no suicides, no drownings, no robberies, no elopements, no 'babes lost in the woods,' occurred to astonish the natives. A recruiting sergeant came along (it was in embargo times), and three or four idle fellows (Herrings and Wilders by name, I think), 'listed' and marched off.

"There were neither churches nor 'stated preaching' in town. A Methodist minister came occasionally and held meetings in private houses, or at the school-house. In the winter there was a school on the river, and the master, who 'boarded round,' must have 'had a good time of it' on johnny-cake for breakfast, lean salt pork for dinner, and samp and milk for supper.

"There were but few amusements in those days, and but little of leisure or disposition to indulge in them. Those that I remember as most pleasant and exciting were 'huskings' and 'coon-hunts.' There was fun, too, in smoking 'woodchucks' out of their holes.

"During my residence there, Mr. Wattles moved into the neighborhood. He came, I think, from what was then called 'the Triangle,' somewhere in Chenango county, and was a sub-land agent. They were, for that region, rather 'stylish' people, and became obnoxious to some, and caused a good deal of remark. One thing that excited especial indignation was, that persons going to the house were asked to clean their shoes at the door, a scraper having been placed there for that purpose. A maiden lady (Miss Theodosia Wattles) rendered herself es-

pecially obnoxious to the spinster neighbors by 'dressing up' week-day afternoons. They all agreed in saying she was a 'proud, stuck up thing.' In those days, 'go-to-meeting clothes' were reserved for Sundays.

"Leeks were the bane of my life in Cincinnatus. They tainted everything, but especially the milk and butter. Such was my aversion to 'leeky milk,' that to this day I cannot endure milk in any form.

"In the fall and winter corn-shelling furnished evening occupation. The ears were shelled either with a cob, or the handle of a frying-pan. There have been improvements since in that as in other departments of agriculture.

"Such are, in a crude form, some of my recollections of life in Cincinnatus half a century ago. That town, then very large, has since been subdivided into three or four towns. Upon the farm of my old friends, the Carleys, the large and flourishing village of Marathon has grown up. And then, too, a substantial bridge has taken the place of the 'dug out' in which we used to cross the river. Of the sprinkling of inhabitants who had then just commenced subduing the forests and insinuating scanty deposits of seed between the stumps and roots, but few, of course, survive. The settlers were industrious, honest, law-abiding, and, with few exceptions, temperate citizens. The friendly neighborhood relations, so necessary in a new country, existed there. All tried not only to take care of themselves, but to help their neighbors. Farming implements and household articles were pretty much enjoyed in common. Everybody 'lent' what they possessed, and 'borrowed' whatever they wanted.

"You must judge whether these hastily written recollections of Cincinnatus would at all interest the few old inhabitants remaining there; and having so judged, you are at liberty to put them into your book, or into the fire.

"Very truly yours,

"THURLOW WEED."

J. Zechariah Squires, whose wife was Abram Brink's sister, came to the town from Binghamton in 1801, bringing his family in a canoe. He helped Mr. Brink build a log house near where William Squires, his son, now lives. They lived in Mr. Brink's house a year or two and then located on the west side of the river, about a quarter of a mile south of Main street; there they remained for a time and then removed to a farm in Lapeer.

Settlements in the Texas Valley were made very early. It was the central point of the old town of Cincinnatus, when it comprised Willet, Freetown and Marathon, and about the time of the organization of Cincinnatus, in 1804, several families came in and settled at or near that point. The location was on the old State road and it was believed in view of this fact and its central situation, that a thriving village would grow up. These hopes were not realized, however. The Tioughnioga and the Otselic valleys were more rapidly settled for farming purposes and mechanics and tradesmen also located there more rapidly than at other points in the town, or at "The Center," as it was then called.

Thomas French, a man advanced in years and with a large family, moved to the "Center" soon after the organization of the town, built a small framed house and kept the first tavern in the place for a number of years. His son, Calvin, succeeded him in the homestead, where he died some years ago at the age of eighty-five years. A few years later a man named Hammond removed to the Center, bringing a large family; he located about eighty rods west of Mr. French, where he kept an inn for a time. He was also engaged in tanning and boot and shoemaking. His grandson is now carrying on blacksmithing at Texas Valley.

Dr. Mordecai Lowe located at the Center about the year 1812 and was engaged in the practice of his profession for several years. He was the only resident physician in that region for fifteen or twenty years. He is remembered as a man of fair educa-

tion, bright intellect and successful in his practice; but his remuneration for his labors was meager. He died of consumption about fifty years ago. His son married a daughter of Captain Mallery and removed to a western State, where his wife died, leaving a daughter who now lives with her aunt, Mrs. Nathan Smith, in Cortland village. Dr. Lowe's daughter married William Hinman, of Merrill Creek, town of Marathon.

An elderly man named Barton, with several grown sons, were pioneers in Texas Valley. The family were better educated and possessed ability above the average of pioneers, who had few opportunities for improving their education and mental training. Moses Barton was justice of the peace for some years and at one time one of the county judges. He emigrated to Michigan some forty years ago. William Barton, jr., held the office of justice of the peace some years and was elected Member of Assembly in 1824. Henry D. Barton, the youngest of the brothers, studied law and settled in a village on Seneca lake, where he became somewhat distinguished as a Democratic politician.

Samuel Edwards was, with his sons, early settlers at the Center. The Leach family, also, came there at an early day. Their names were Thomas, Alexander, Jonathan and Timothy, all large, powerful men, who did much to clear up the wilderness.

The Meachams, including five brothers, settled early in the eastern part of the town. Their names were Simon, Gideon, Issacher, Isaac and Jonah; they located near Merrill creek. Jonah kept a tavern for a time, where Homer Wightman's cheese factory is now located.

The Sherwood family, consisting of Daniel, William L., Seth, Noah and Caleb (all now dead), came in and settled on Merrill creek a few years after the Meachams came. Daniel Sherwood served as justice of the peace for several years, and was sent to the Legislature in 1822, where he served three years. William L. Sherwood was also elected justice of the peace. Several other early settlers on Merrill creek might be mentioned with commendation, such as Capt. John Davis and Roswell Hinman, whose wives were sisters of the Sherwoods; also John and Peter Fralick, all of whom were useful and respected men.

The entire region between the Tioughnioga valley and Merrill creek was covered with a dense forest, so thick as to be difficult of passage, and the narrow path connecting the two localities continued until a comparatively late date to be a rough, muddy way that was not at all attractive to travelers.

Along the northern border of the town and on the State road, about half-way between the Center and the river, a few families settled as early as 1812–15. Of these there were two brothers, Nathan and Eleazer Taft, and an old gentleman named Noah Upham, whose lands are now owned by his grandson, Duane Upham. Nathaniel Bosworth located on the farm where Eleazer Meacham and his sons now reside. He was a man possessed of more than ordinary ability, of fine personal appearance and robust constitution. He was commissioned as captain of the first artillery company organized in this region of country. He made several applications to the State for a field-piece and finally succeeded in getting a small brass three-pounder. The captain then ordered the company to meet at Killawog, whither he had removed, to convey the gun to his former residence, where it was ordered to be kept. The ceremony of its reception and dedication to the use of the company, an able speech by the captain, the firing of the cannon and

the military parade, proved highly interesting to the large gathering of people who came from far and near to witness the display. Many of them had heard of heavy artillery, and of its use in hard-fought battles; but comparatively few had ever seen a cannon, and imagined that the gun would be as large as a man's body and taking a ball as big as a man's head. Several of the citizens voluntered to escort the gun to its destination and followed the company on its march of six miles, witnessing the first loading and firing at Marathon, where a short halt was made. After arriving at their destination and partaking of refreshments, the military drill was resumed and general enjoyment reigned, when a casualty occurred which precipitated the entire assemblage into the deepest gloom. In loading the cannon a premature discharge occurred, which horribly mutilated and fatally injured a man named Webster, and the day ended in sorrow. Captain Bosworth was afterward justice of the peace several years. He was the father of Joseph S. Bosworth, who was born in the town in 1808, practiced law in Binghamton and subsequently in New York city, where he became very successful and popular, and was elected chief justice of the Superior Court.

Barnabas Wood and wife, with a family of four adult sons and one daughter, came into the town in 1805 and settled at first on the "salt road" east of the village; afterward the family, with the exception of Erastus, located at the river on a farm north of the village, where Martin Brooks now lives. Two of the sons, Erastus and Parley P., were noted for their legal pretensions and their aversion to matrimony. Barnabas Wood, jr., was one of the first constables elected in the town. He also, like his brothers referred to, continued in celibacy till considerably advanced in years, when he married a daughter of Judge Lewis. Augustus, the youngest son, was a person of strange and eccentric habits. He claimed to hold frequent personal communications with denizens of the other world, and his mind was occupied with such delusions to the almost entire neglect of his personal appearance, dress or cleanliness; he refused to have his beard shaved off, a habit which gave considerable offense in those days, or to change his clothing as civilized people deem necessary. The family, believing he was insane, finally sought the assistance of neighbors to compel him to conform to habits of common decency. Accordingly, several young men of the vicinity volunteered to give the eccentric man a general ablution as often as once in two weeks. Wood did not take kindly to this kind of treatment, and at length decided to submit to it no longer. For purposes of personal defense he took a common case knife, ground it sharp on both edges and to a point and skillfully fitted it in a handle, making a very dangerous dirk. As the time approached for another bath, Wood watched for his enemies and when he saw their approach, retreated to the attic of the house where he took refuge behind the chimney, the top of which protruded but a little above the roof. Reaching up he secured a number of bricks from the chimney top to aid in his defense. The assaulting party arrived at the house and ordered him to come down, and when he positively declined, they advanced to capture him; but he used the bricks with such effect that the party was forced to retreat. A ladder was then put up against the house and the leader of the party had nearly reached a point of vantage, when he was hit by a brick which would have knocked him to the ground, had he not been caught by one of his comrades. A general and precipitate assault was then made and Wood was cap-

tured, but not without his using his dangerous blade with some unfortunate consequences. The late Alanson Carley was one of the party and received a wound on his cheek which left a scar that remained through his life. Wood was plunged into the river and given repeated washings that partially overcame his peculiarity. He was soon after taken charge of by the overseers of the poor as a pauper, and after the division of the town, each of the four towns contributed equally to his support. The board and care of the pauper was let to the lowest bidder and annually caused a good deal of local excitement. This method of providing for the poor was continued for some years, until the more humane plan now in vogue was adopted.

It is manifestly impossible to follow all of the early settlements in detail in all parts of the town; but we have noted most of the important ones, who were most instrumental in clearing it of the primeval forest and laying the foundation of the present prosperity and wealth of the community. The stage line from Syracuse to Binghamton ran through the valley, following the course of the river, and gave the inhabitants of early years their chief communication with the outer world; but the rapid growth of the village was much retarded from want of railroad communication, until the construction of the Syracuse and Binghamton road, as heretofore described. Upon the consummation of this undertaking it soon became apparent that the town of Marathon, and especially the village, was to be one of the localities which would be particularly benefited therefrom. The dairying interest, which had already gained some prominence, increased rapidly; manufacturing interests received an impetus and population was invited to the locality.

The first town meeting in the old town of Harrison was held at Marathon, March 2d, 1819. Beginning with that date, the following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of the town, the supervisor's name being given first in each year:—Daniel Steward, Luther Keyes, 1820–21; Chas. Gerard, John C. Schoonmaker, 1822; John Davis, Luther Keyes, 1823; John Schoonmaker, Cephas Comstock, 1824–25; Cephas Comstock, Daniel Sherwood, 1826; Cephas Comstock, James B. Church, 1827; Alanson Carley, Wm. Squires, 1828; Alanson Carley, Wm. Barnes, 1829 to 1831, inclusive, at which time the name of the town was changed; Cephas Comstock, Caleb Davis, 1832; Cephas Comstock, Wm. Barnes, 1833; James B. Church, George Peck, 1834; Alanson Carley, Wm. Barnes, 1835–36; Cephas Comstock, Wm. Barnes, 1837 to 1839, inclusive; Alanson Carley, Wm. Richardson, 1840; James F. Jones, Wm. Richardson, 1841; Wm. Richardson, James Comstock, 1842; Patrick Mallery, Wm. B. Smith, 1843; James Comstock, Anson Peck, 1844; James Comstock, Wm. Barnes, 1845; Edward Moore, Wm. Barnes, 1846; James Comstock, E. C. Carley, 1847; E. C. Carley, S. Anson Peck, 1848; E. C. Carley, Wm. Barnes, 1849; Ezra W. Stratton, Nelson C. Roe, 1850; Geo. W. Crocker, Cyrus W. Newell, 1851; John Van Arsdoll, Israel W. Taft, 1852; Lucien E. Crane, Israel W. Taft, 1853–54; Israel W. Taft, Eli B. Husted, 1855; Lucien B. Crane, Eli B. Husted, 1856; Ira Lynde, Lyman Adams, 1857; Alanson Carley, Lyman Adams, 1858; James Comstock, Anson Peck, 1859; Anson Peck, Lewis A. Hazen, 1860; Cephas Comstock, Wm. Esmay, 1861; Cephas Comstock, James A. Coffin, 1862–63; Patrick Mallery, Wm. W. Powers, 1864–65; Wm. Squires, Wm. W. Powers, 1866; Patrick Mallery, John Q. Adams, 1867; Patrick Mallery, Frank I. Maybury, 1868 to 1870, inclusive; E. C. Carley, Theo. L. Corwin, 1871; Wm. A. Bentley,

Randolph R. Maybury, 1872–73; Patrick Mallery, R. R. Maybury, 1874; Wm. A. Bentley, R. R. Maybury, 1875; E. C. Carley, Jerome Pollard, 1876; Geo. P. Squires, M. B. Aldrich, 1877; Patrick Mallery, W. B. Aldrich, 1878; Geo. A. Hulbert, Carley Adams, 1879; Albertus A. Carley, Hosea B. Aldrich, 1880; Lucien E. Crane, A. Carley Adams, 1881; E. C. Carley, Jerome Pollard, 1882; E. C. Carley, Jerome Pollard, 1883.

Town officers for 1884: —

E. Clark Carley, supervisor.

Thomas W. Reilley, town clerk.

John A. McVean, David Wallace, Geo. A. Hulbert, Moses B. Aldrich, justices of the peace.

Geo. H. Chaplin, highway commissioner.

Homer Wightman, E. W. Meacham, John L. Smith, assessors.

Joseph A. Cole, collector.

William Esmay, John W. Livingston, Frederick Tarble, inspectors of election.

Cyrus B. Northrup, Deloss C. Hammond, overseers of the poor.

Joseph A. Cole, Wm. Davidson, Samuel A. Heaney, constables.

This town came forward at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion and gave freely of her resources and men in defense of the Union. Following is a list of all recruits from the town to whom bounties were paid, besides whom many enlisted whose names are not now available, while many sleep the last sleep on unmarked battle-fields or in the quiet cemetery: —

Call of October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864. Bounty, $300. Total, $7,200.—Benjamin F. Whitford, Jerry Griffen, Abel N. Barlow, Charles T. Shaft, Albert F. Smith, Oliver C. Hesler, Edward Burgess, Simon Rockfeller, William Boice, Eugene Wilcox, William F. Gilman, Geo. H. Ralph, Edgar C. Carley, John W. Waterman, Garry Shapley, George Jackson, George Prentis, William P. Smith, Oren Withey, Alexander Thompson, George B. Smith, David G. Conger, Edward James, Elson F. Quinn.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty, $1,000. Brokerage, $775. Total, $31,000.—Clement Arnold, Henry S. Bacon, Edward A. Barlow, Charles A. Bunnell, Ransom Coonradt, James M. Coonradt, John L. Chase, Hiram Clark, Abram Clark, James Davern, John Dykeman, Abel Foster, Jerry S. Gross, Twing R. Hett, Lenden P. Hillsinger, Albertus C. Hillsinger, Nathan James, Nathaniel Knapp, George W. Miller, Webster Pierce, Charles A. Potts, Oren C. Reed, George Sherwood, Albert J. Spencer, Wm. Sullivan, Lorenzo Thomas, Francis F. Tompkins, Arthur Terpining, Roscoe Valentine, Stephen M. Wood, Eliakim S. Weld.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls of October 17th, 1863, February and March, $7,200. Paid for filling quota, call of July 18th, 1864, $31,775. Grand total, $38,975.

MARATHON VILLAGE.

But a few years prior to the opening of the Chenango canal in 1837, what is now the thriving village of Marathon hardly deserved the name of village; it was in reality a mere hamlet of small dwelling houses, destitute of commercial interests; there was not a physician, attorney, minister or priest residing here; there was no store in the place and very few shops, while an occasional tailor or shoemaker came into the place for a brief visit, to mend or make the clothing and shoes of the people. The houses were mostly quite small, generally of one story or at the most a story and a half in height and very few if any were painted previous to 1820.

About the year 1840 the village began to assume a considerable degree of activity and growth; but the process was slow and

it was not until comparatively late years that it has become a stirring business center for the inhabitants of a large section of surrounding country. At about the time of the establishment of the first store in the village there were not more than a dozen houses here. The east side of the river, from its favorable location in respect to public travel, offered better inducements for growth and improvement, than the opposite side. The stage road from Cortland to Binghamton, the principal thoroughfare through the valley, ran along that side of the stream and there was also located the only tavern and the post-office, all contributing to the advantages of that section of the place. The western side of the river at this point did not, previous to 1850, present many indications of an early extension of the village in that direction. There were a few respectable dwellings there, occupied mostly by farmers; but with the exception of a grist-mill, saw-mill, fulling-mill and carding-machine, a cabinet shop and blacksmith shop, there was little of a business aspect in that locality. When, however, the building of the railroad and its location on that side of the river were assured, business men and mechanics were attracted thither and an impetus was given to the growth of that portion of the village which is still felt. The building of this railroad (finished in 1854), while it practically killed many of the smaller stations along the line, was the real basis of the growth and prosperity of Marathon village, giving it connection with the New York, Lake Erie and Western on the south and with the New York Central on the north.

Mr. Brink, whose settlement has already been alluded to, as the first tavern-keeper in Marathon, was also the first to erect a structure suitable for the purposes of a store and lease it to whoever might be disposed to make the first mercantile venture. The building stood a few rods north of where the bank building is now located, and was rented to William Snyder; he could not have been very heavily supplied with capital, as he returned from a trip to New York for the purchase of goods without having bought any, giving as a reason that there were no fresh goods in that city at the time. He later became, however, able to purchase in very large quantities.

Luther Keyes rented this store after Snyder left it and put in a small stock of goods, including what was then thought to be a necessary article in all similar establishments — whisky. He there sold this beverage freely and, as justice of the peace, administered the law, probably to some of his own customers, in the same store. He made a failure of his enterprise and was sold out to satisfy the claims of his creditors. His successor in the store was David Manrose, who was equally unsuccessful. James Burgess was also engaged in trade in the same building for a few years.

The late John M. Roe, formerly a merchant at Freetown Corners, traded in this store for a time, while awaiting the building of a larger structure for the reception of his goods in 1837, on the site of the Hazen Block. Mr. Roe continued in trade there for a number of years, a portion of the time with William Richardson and subsequently with Ira Lynde. The latter finally bought out the establishment and continued the business for a time, selling out to L. A. Hazen, and the building to Henry Carter. While Mr. Hazen occupied the store the building was burned, but the insurance on the structure and goods was nearly or quite sufficient to cover the loss.

Messrs. Carley & Brink built the store now occupied by J. & G. A. Hulbert. Mr. Carley and Anson Peck were the first pro-



prietors to engage in trade there and Mr. Carley subsequently purchased Peck's interest and continued the mercantile business successfully for several years.

The old store on the opposite side of the street was also prosperous under the management of George Peck and his brother-in-law, A. Hibbard, and afterward under the management of Peck & Dickson. Some years later the building was occupied for the manufacture and sale of hats, during which time it was destroyed by fire.

In the year 1853 E. C. Carley erected the first store on West Main street, where Daniel E. Whitmore now is. Mr. Carley did business there for about two years, and was succeeded by A. A. Carley and C. C. Adams, and afterward by C. C. Carley and Adams & Birch, in 1868. Mr. Whitmore has occupied the store eight or ten years. D. D. Hunt built the store just west of the bridge and C. C. Adams went into business at that location, where he has since remained.

D. D. Hunt began business in a general way in 1855. In 1869 he built the Mansard Block, to which he removed from the building now owned by G. W. Webster. From about the time of his removal until 1875 he was in partnership with Oscar Wilde; he was then alone until May, 1882, when his son-in-law, C. M. Chapman, came into the firm under the style of Hunt & Chapman, and they carry a large stock of hardware, groceries and drugs, and enjoy a liberal patronage.

Mack & Husted have been in partnership for a number years, in the hardware trade, and are among the prominent business men of the village.

The Peck block was erected in 1854. Lyman Adams began in the dry goods trade in 1853. In 1865 he formed a partnership with James H. Tripp and for seventeen years thereafter they carried on a successful trade, the firm name becoming a household word throughout a wide extent of territory. For some years they have done a collection business and in 1883 established the private banking house, which is soon to be succeeded by a National Bank. W. C. Sanders succeeded Tripp & Adams in mercantile business in March, 1883.

L. C. Ball came to Marathon from Harford in 1874 with a business experience of about ten years. He became a member of the dry goods firm of Pollard & Ball. After three years the firm was dissolved and Mr. Ball has since continued the business alone.

L. F. Ward has recently established himself with a stock of clothing and furnishing goods.

The boot and shoe trade of Marathon was begun by E. B. Husted in 1855. Since that time A. G. Smith and Waterbury & Talmadge have engaged in the business. L. A. Hazen began business in 1858 and now carries a stock of boots and shoes, clothing, etc. The old building on this site was burned in the fall of 1861, and in 1862 L. L. Hazen built the new block which now bears his name, L. A. & L. L. Hazen were associated in business for several years.

The grocery trade in Marathon, as a separate line, was begun in 1855 by Geo. L. Swift, who still continues the business in a small way. David M. Hunt began the trade at about the same time and has for many years past dealt in groceries and drugs. The firms of Corwin & Son, Hunt & Chapman and Tiffany & Pulford are all enterprising dealers in groceries and are well patronized by the public.

William Dellow began the manufacture and sale of furniture in Willet soon after 1850, and removed to Marathon in the spring of 1875, where he has carried on the same business since. Davis & Boy-

den began in the same line in the spring of 1884.

It was about the year 1801 before anything was done in Marathon to provide milling facilities for the inhabitants. John Hunt erected the first grist-mill on the east side of the river about twenty rods north from the present river bridge. Some years afterward John and William Smith built a grist-mill on the west bank of the river, where L. A. Burgess & Son's saw-mill now stands. The first saw-mill was built by John Chamberlain in 1808, to which we have already alluded. Benjamin Adams rebuilt the grist-mill in the present more convenient location, and after running it for a while sold to A. Carley, the present owner, who has had it repaired and renovated throughout and all modern improvements added; the mill has a capacity of 500 bushels in twenty-four hours. A. Carley & Son deal largely in flour, feed, etc., supplying the retail trade in surrounding towns.

James Livingston built a saw-mill in the fall of 1859, just above the village on Hunt creek. It was burned in 1866, but immediately rebuilt. It is now owned by William Dellow & Son. The Livingston brothers built a steam saw-mill in 1870, which was removed to State Bridge, and burned in 1877. The Burgess circular saw-mill, built about the year 1860, was run twelve or fifteen years and it, too, burned.

James Livingston, one of the early blacksmiths of Marathon, was born in Schoharie county in 1816, and, after two or three removals, came to this village in 1837 and began working at his trade, which he has ever since continued. His old shop was built in 1865, and the new one — the Livingston Machine Shop and Bending Works — in 1878. The son, James Livingston, jr., put in machinery for bridge building, and the establishment is now very prosperous and an important factor in the manufacturing interests of the village.

O. H. Smith began blacksmithing in the village thirty-one years ago, and erected his present shop in 1867. His old shop was sold to E. D. Baker in 1865, who has made additions thereto and is engaged in carriage-making. Jerome Vunk began blacksmithing and carriage building in 1881

The dairying interest of Cortland county has developed a large demand for first class butter packages. To meet a portion of this demand has been the business of S. M. Wood for more than twenty years past. He began the cooperage business in 1861.

He bought the factory opposite the depot in 1874, and, after carrying on a large business at that location for seven years, purchased his present lot, erected his buildings, and is extensively engaged in the manufacture of firkins, tubs, barrels, etc.

The Stockwell Wagon Company is one of the largest manufacturing enterprises in Marathon, employs thirty hands constantly and turns out about 300 wagons annually. W. E. Stockwell, a man of large experience in this business, is general manager of the works. The company was incorporated in May, 1882, the first officers beings G. P. Squires, president; D. E. Whitmore, vice-president; Wm. A. Stockwell, secretary; Lyman Adams, treasurer; W. E. Stockwell, superintendent.

Directors: G. P. Squires, D. E. Whitmore, Wm. A. Stockwell, L. Adams, F. H. Sweet, D. B. Tripp, C. H. Bouton.

The building was begun in June, 1882, and finished in October following. During the fall of 1883 the company exhibited samples of their wagons at the various county fairs in Central New York and carried off, in every instance, the first premiums. The most careful attention is paid

to the production of the best wheels it is possible to make, while in the ironing they use the best refined iron, Norway iron bolts, bolting on more of the iron than is generally done. The result is a wagon that it is very difficult to excel. The present officers of the company are: Geo. L. Swift, president; D. E. Whitmore, vice-president; Wm. A. Stockwell, secretary; Lyman Adams, treasurer; W. E. Stockwell, superintendent.

Directors: Geo. L. Swift, W. A. Stockwell, J. H. Tripp, D. E. Whitmore, Lyman Adams, G. E. Tarbell, Clark Pierce.

Horace Dickinson built a tannery in Marathon at a comparatively early date, and was also engaged for some time in the boot and shoe business. He sold his tannery to Mr. D. Shattuck and some time later built a new one. About the year 1860 another large tannery was erected by the firm of Phillips & Bentley, which gives employment to about fifteen men and furnishes a market annually for several hundred cords of bark. John Dumphy built the largest tannery in this vicinity in 1877 and now employs from 60 to 100 men and turns out about 600 sides of leather a day. This is one of the most valuable additions to the material interests of the village.

The old cooperage of S. M. Wood & Co. passed through the hands of E. W. Hayes into those of C. M. Chapman, who put in extensive machinery for the manufacture of wheel-barrows, toy wagons, sleds, etc. From seven to nine men are employed.

Tavern-keeping in the old building already described was relinquished about the year 1833. This business in the days of stage coaches and travel with private conveyances was far more prosperous and important in small villages and along the main thoroughfares at the period mentioned and down to the time of railroad construction, than it is at the present time. A mail stage then ran from Binghamton to Cortland each way on alternate days, connecting with similar lines to Syracuse, and the business of country hotel-keeping was one of profit.

In 1833 David Peck purchased a small house, put up an addition to it and fitted it up for a tavern. This was the beginning of the present Marathon House, which has passed through numerous hands, being usually enlarged or improved by each newcomer, until it reached its present commodious and comfortable dimensions and character. C. J. & A. Tarble succeeded Melvin W. Conger as proprietors of the house on the 1st of February, 1884.

The hotel known as the Carley House was erected in 1854 by A. Carley. The first structure, before it was entirely inclosed, was blown down by a severe gale of wind. It was at once rebuilt and has been under the management of Moses Rogers for seventeen years past. It bears the reputation of being a thoroughly first-class country hotel.

Brown's Hotel was originally built for a cigar manufactory. It was burned down in 1877 and immediately rebuilt.

Lawyers. — Ira L. Little, the oldest attorney in Marathon, was admitted to the bar in 1855 and soon after removed to the village, where he has since practiced his profession with a good degree of success. He was born in Walkill, Orange Co., N. Y., July 26th, 1830. He was educated in Harford, studied law with Benjamin S. Bentley, in Montrose, Pa., and was admitted in that State in 1852. Besides his legal ability, Mr. Little has won considerable literary distinction.

H. L. Green practiced law for a short time in Marathon, in 1852 or 1853. He now resides in Salamanca.

A. G. Stillson came next in 1854, but during the fall of the same year accidentally shot himself.

Garret Z. House began practice here in the summer of 1858 but remained only a

short time, going to Dryden, Tompkins county.

In the spring of 1863 E. A. Barlow came to the village for the practice of law; but in 1865 he enlisted in the 185th regiment and after the war located in South Carolina.

B. T. Wright came here in 1866 and remained in successful practice eight or ten years, until elected district attorney of the county, when he removed to Cortland village.

W. J. Mantanye began practice here in 1868; G. E. Tarbell in 1880 and W. C. Crombie in 1883.

Physicians. — Dr. Japheth Hunt was the first physician in the village. His death occurred in 1808, at the age of 97 years. His son, Dr. S. M. Hunt, and his grandson, Dr. Deloss Hunt, have already been alluded to.

Dr. S. Smith was a native of this place; he was licensed to practice in 1848, but retired in 1851 and removed to Scott Center, where he practiced dentistry.

Dr. A. D. Reed is a native of Delaware county. He was educated at Roxbury, studied with Sherman Street and was licensed in 1848. He first practiced in Castleton, Vt., then at Cincinnatus, and then removed to Marathon, where he is still located.

Dr. E. H. Barnes was admitted to the Cortland County Medical Society in 1840, and has been an active and useful member of the society ever since. Drs. F. P. Howland, Lyman Tiffany, E. Winter and W. H. Hill, and Dr. Appley are all engaged in practice in Marathon.

The Press. — The first newspaper published in the village of Marathon was a four-column, four-page paper, edited by Geo. L. Swift. It was issued monthly, began in 1857 and was called the *Marathon Telegraph*. The editor stated in an early number that "the *Telegraph* is capable of producing wonders;" if he referred to his little paper he failed in his reckoning, for it attained neither a long life nor a very exalted reputation. The next local journal was the *Tioughniogan*, which was edited and published by E. S. Weld, the successful teacher, whose work in the old building now used as a Catholic Church led to the establishment of the academy. The *Tioughniogan* was soon merged in *The People's Journal*, a seven-column folio, established in 1861 by E. S. Weld and John R. Beden. Early in the late war Mr. Weld answered the call of his country, in consequence of which the newspaper enterprise was abandoned. The *Marathon Leader* was established in 1865 by P. D. Vradenburg, who afterward sold to his brother, C. A. Vradenburg. In 1869 C. Dwight Smith bought the old material of this office and started the *Marathon News;* but he soon after left the place between two days. The *Marathon Independent*, a handsome six-column folio, was started by Wallace Kelley in 1870, who successfully conducted it to the time of his death in 1876. It then passed into the hands of Brooks & Day, with Ed. L. Adams as editor. In 1878 Mr. Adams bought the interest of Mr. Day, and Brooks & Adams conducted the establishment until 1880, when Mr. Adams took the entire concern. It is now an eight-page, five-column paper, and one of the best country journals in Central New York.[1]

Schools. — The first school in Marathon was taught by Miss Miriam Cowdry, a portion of the time in a log barn, and subsequently in a log school-house which stood near where the new barn of Wm. Squires is located. This school-house was a very primitive and rude affair, the windows being covered with oiled paper instead of glass; but as early as the close of the war of 1812 the log houses in this and adjoining towns

[1] See chapter on the press of the county, in this volume.

began to gradually give way to the first small framed houses; school districts were organized and school-houses built and provisions made for the support of the common schools. Some of the older residents of Marathon village will remember that a small framed school-house was built some sixty years ago or more, near the bank of the creek, as it then ran, where Hazen's store now stands; and that a heavy freshet so undermined the north side of the building that the structure assumed an angle of about twenty degrees. The school was, however, continued several days before the structure was repaired, during which time one-half of the pupils must have been compelled to look down somewhat on the other half. The main channel of the creek passed from the saw-mill southwesterly, crossing the road at the point where the Marathon House is now located. An elevated bridge over the stream stood between the hotel and the Hazen Block.

The first school-house of respectable pretensions was built by "Esquire" Burgess about the year 1818. He furnished the lumber and all the materials and painted it for the moderate sum of $100, receiving his pay in rye and corn, which were, more often than money, the medium of exchange at that time.

The Marathon Academy was chartered by the Regents of the University in February, 1866. The building in the condition it then was had been occupied by a high school kept by E. S. Weld, who owned the building. Mr. Weld enlisted in the 185th regiment in 1864 to go to the defense of the Union, and the building was sold to the Catholic Society about the year 1872, who have since used it as a church. The school was then given its present beautiful location and surroundings. M. L. Hawley, who subsequently edited the *Binghamton Standard*, was principal of the academy during the first two years of its existence. The institution is now under the principalship of Hamilton Terry, who is assisted by Hortense Hodges, Eva D. Gardner and Hattie Livingston. The present board of education consists of D. E. Whitmore, president; C. C. Carley, secretary; D. D. Hunt, treasurer; W. A. Bentley, G. W. Miller, L. A. Hazen, O. H. Smith, D. R. Hunt.

Churches. — Most of the early settlers in this county were favorably disposed towards religious instruction and cheerfully contributed of their means for the support of such ministers of the gospel as could be procured to preach occasionally in the settlement, without regard to their creed. The Rev. Seth Williston is remembered as a man of excellent literary attainments and an effective preacher. He married a widow lady named Dudley, at Lisle, where he preached a few years, removing thence to Durham, Greene county, where he was pastor of a church a number of years, and was much esteemed for his usefulness and Christian character. He was one of the first pastors of the Union society in Marathon, which was known at its organization as the Society of Lisle, Cincinnatus and Virgil, each town contributing to the congregation. Its name was subsequently confined to Cincinnatus; then to Harrison and finally to Marathon, after the town took that name. It was received under the care of the Presbytery of Onondaga September 7th, 1814, and upon the division of that county was assigned to the Presbytery of Cortland. In 1825 the society reported twenty members. The Revs. Matthew Harrison, James Blakeslee, Peleg R. Kinne, Wm. J. Bradford, John A. Avery and J. F. McLaury, were a few of the pastors who have at different times supplied this society. The church has never been large and seems never to have been blessed with any special and fruitful revival. In 1832 it had seventy-two members; in 1840 it had seventy-five; in 1846 it had

sixty-two and it now reports sixty members. The present elders of the church are Lewis W. Uptegrove, Daniel Whitmore, Gabriel L. Oakley, Jerome Hulbert, Burgess Squires, Martin L. Brooks, Geo. W. Webster, Harris Hammond and John Robertson. The church edifice was built in 1831, by James Burgess; it was finished in 1832 and a few years later a bell was hung in the steeple. This was the first church building in the village. It is still in use, but has been much improved from time to time since its erection.

The Rev. John Lawton was another pioneer preacher of the Baptist denomination, whose voice was, like that of his prototype, "heard in the wilderness." He was pastor of a Baptist church organized at Upper Lisle in 1804. Two brothers named Aschel and Levi Holcomb were at different subsequent years pastors of that church, and both of them occasionally preached in Marathon and adjoining towns. A few of the first settlers were members of a Baptist church before their arrival here; they joined the church at Upper Lisle, or "Otselic," as it was then called. A Baptist church was formed at Freetown Corners about the year 1812, and some of those who had united with the Upper Lisle church, withdrew and joined the Freetown organization. The pioneers of that day were, apparently, more zealous and punctual in attending religious meetings than at the present time; women not rarely went on foot six or seven miles to listen to the gospel. Elder Timothy Shepherd, living near Upper Lisle, preached at Freetown a few years, till that church was divided and a portion of the members went to assist in the formation of a society at the "Center" (now Texas Valley). Elder Shepherd became the pastor of the new church at the latter place and preached there for a very meager salary, which was paid in rye and corn at the regular barter price. It is stated, but not verified by living witnesses, that Elder Shepherd had his grain delivered at a distillery owned by one of his flock and had whisky manufactured from it; that he took the liquor home and sold what he could spare after supplying his own wants. While this may not have been the fact, it is quite sure that such a transaction on the part of a minister of the gospel would call forth vastly less censure in those days than it would at the present time.

An incident related in the sketches prepared by Dr. Hunt will not be out of place here. An old man named Snyder, father of a large and respectable family living on the hill in the town of Virgil which bears his name, usually came to Marathon annually to cut and assist in making clothing for the inhabitants. He was a native of Hesse Cassel and one of the 17,000 men hired in Germany to come over and help the British fail in whipping the Yankees. Snyder was a pious man and a member of the Baptist church. It was then the custom of the minister after the sermon was concluded, to call on members of the church to deliver exhortations or relate their religious experience. Mr. Snyder was always prompt to discharge this duty. His remarks included not only a general confession of his moral short-comings, but a free acknowledgment of his former hostile feelings toward the American people, expressed in broken English and almost without variation in the following words: —

"Mine frients, I vas once der pitter enemy of the 'Merican beeples, but der lort has obened mine eyes to see I vas wrong. I vas told dat dey vas all wicket rebels and when I virst come to 'Merica, I would haf kilt you all, if it had peen in my power; but I vas treated so kintly when taken brisoner by Sheneral Washington, and found he was one coot man, dot I deserted and haf been a coot frient of de 'Mericans ever since."

It was not until 1860 that a Baptist organization was effected in Marathon village, the believers of that denomination previously attending the church at either Freetown or Lisle. The society formed in Marathon numbered at the first twenty-five members. It has now nearly one hundred and is in a flourishing and healthful condition. The Rev. Adam H. Todd, the present pastor, took charge of the church April 1st, 1884. A new church edifice was built and dedicated in 1876. R. M. Lovell is chairman of the board of trustees.

The Methodist society was formed here in 1830 and is said to have been composed at first of but four members, of whom Orrin Carley was the class-leader. The society now numbers about 157. Their chapel was built in 1842 by James Burgess, but it has since been enlarged and considerably improved in appearance. The present pastor, J. F. Warner, came to the church in April, 1874. The names of the trustees are O. H. Smith, John Moore, N. H. Winter, Arthur Butick, C. Hultz, E. D. Baker, Darius Boyden, E. C. Carley and John Livingston.

The Catholic society is quite small. They purchased the old Academy building and have since worshiped therein. J. L. Meagher assumed charge of the church two years ago.

Incorporation. — The incorporation of the village of Marathon took place on the 28th day of December, 1861. The first election was held at the house of G. C. Messenger, when the following trustees were elected: Asa Hunt, Anson Peck, Garrett Pennoyer, James Brooks, E. S. Weld. Asa Hunt was chosen president and S. R. Benjamin, clerk.

Following is the record of the survey of the corporation: "Beginning in the highway on the west bank of the Tioughnioga river, four chains and eighteen links south of seventeen degrees east from the north line of lot owned by Nancy Smith, and running thence south seventy-five degrees west, twenty-four chains to a stake marked 'corporation limits — southwest corner,' and standing on land owned by Lawrence Hindle. Thence north fifteen degrees west, 100 chains to a stake marked 'corporation limits — northwest corner,' and standing on land owned by Garrett Pennoyer. Thence north seventy-five degrees east sixty-four chains to a stake marked 'corporation limits — northeast corner,' and standing on land owned by James Brooks. Thence south fifteen degrees east, one hundred chains to the center of the brook within the highway leading from the river road near Wm. Squires's to Peter Moore's. Thence south seventy-five degrees west forty chains to the place of beginning, containing 640 acres, or one square mile of land."

The present bridge across the river was built in 1868. In a stone that lies in the eighth layer from the bottom of the western abutment, three feet and ten inches from the corner, are the following memorials: a history of the settlement of the town, prepared by Dr. S. M. Hunt; a sermon by Rev. H. Lyman; the weekly papers of the county; names of the contractors and others employed in building the bridge; U. S. coins; a ten dollar confederate bill; a slip of the apple-tree under which Generals Grant and Lee arranged the terms of the surrender of the Southern army in the late war, etc.

The bridge is a handsome and substantial structure.

At a special meeting of the board of village trustees held October 15th, 1867, the following persons were appointed members of the first fire company of Marathon: A. H. Barber (first foreman), B. F. Wright, C. C. Adams, L. S. Burch, E. C. Carley, G. L.

Swift, R. E. Edwards, W. W. Powers, John Livingston, Corwin Burgess, D. B. Tripp, Jerry C. Gray, C. H. Ford, J. Q. Adams, J. W. Schouten, W. Maynard, R. D. Mack, James Livingston, B. Hunt, E. D. Burgess, D. A. Mack, Wm. M. Griffith, T. H. Roe, Smith Sherwood, Duane Burgess, D. C. Lynde, E. B. Husted, Jas. Livingston, jr., Hiram Cone, J. H. McDowell, F. I. Maybury, Geo. R. Burgess, F. F. Tompkins, O. H. Smith, J. Pollard, D. D. Hunt, R. R. Maybury, E. D. Baker, M. L. Hawley, Chas. Hunt, Chas. G. Brink, James S. Burgess, Chester Nichols, F. M. Taylor, E. D. Barnes, James H. Tripp.

But few of these original members are now in the company; but ever since its first organization few fire companies in villages even much larger than Marathon have done more effective service or secured a greater degree of respect from the community than this one. An engine was purchased at Syracuse in 1867, and the present engine house was erected a little later The present officers of the company are as follows: L. C. Ball, chief engineer; L. D. Terwilliger, assistant engineer; B. L. Adams, president; A. C. Rorabacher, vice-president; J. W. Livingston, secretary; W. R. Pollard, treasurer; J. A. Cole, foreman; John H. Boyd, assistant foreman; J. W. Hunt, foreman of hose; Fred L. Boyden, assistant foreman; Thaddeus Driggs, steward. The trustees are Samuel Heaney, D. B. Livingston, Leroy Stevens.

The trustees of the village for 1884 are as follows: T. L. Corwin president; D. D. Hunt, treasurer; Adam Hillsinger, collector; J. W. Livingston, clerk; James Burgess, Henry Casler, Lyman Adams.

The population is about 1100.

CHAPTER XXIII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CINCINNATUS.

THE town of Cincinnatus was one of the original townships of the military tract; it comprises 15,702¾ acres. It is bounded on the north by Taylor; on the east by Chenango county; south by Willet, and west by Freetown.

The surface consists of the valley of the Otselic river and the ridges which rise upon either side. Nearly the entire surface of the town is divided into steep hills and ridges divided by deep ravines, through which flow the tributaries of the Otselic.

The town was organized April 8th, 1804, and retained its original limits until April 21st, 1818, when it was divided by the erection of Freetown, Willet and Marathon.

The settlement of Cincinnatus began in 1795. The inducements to pioneers were not so favorable in this region as in some other portions of the county; the lands were regarded as less desirable for cultivation, and the rugged character of the surface tended to retard settlement somewhat until a comparatively recent period. Later developments, however, have proven that the town is one of the most productive in the county, and the farmers get a good return for their labor. The soil is varied in character, and is generally better adapted to grazing than the raising of grain. In later years dairying has engaged a large share of the attention of the farmers of the town and they have the reputation of producing butter and cheese of the very best quality.

The earliest settlers of Cincinnatus were

John Kingman, Thaddeus Rockwell, Zurial Raymond, Dr. John McWhorter, Ezra Rockwell and Samuel Vining. Mr. Kingman was a native of Wethersfield, Mass., where he was born October 5th, 1770. He left home at the age of sixteen and learned the shoemaker's trade with Mr. McGee, in Sheffield. When he was twenty-five years old he came to Cincinnatus and located on lot 19, bringing with him his wife and his infant son, John Kingman, jr., who now lives in Cincinnatus at the age of eighty-five years. Mr. Kingman was an industrious man, and being a good shoemaker, he worked on his small tract of fifteen acres of land in day time and made boots and shoes evenings. He thus prospered and purchased additional land until his farm embraced 150 acres. His worth as a citizen was appreciated by his townsmen, who kept him in the office of supervisor for eleven successive years and in other town offices at different times. He also rose from the military office of corporal in an infantry company, to colonel. He died in 1859, and his wife in 1854. His family were Leroy W., Lyman, Oliver, Charles and John, the last three settling in this town. John is the only one now living, and is one of the oldest permanent residents of the town and county. He held the office of supervisor eight years and was sent to the Legislature in 1844. Orange Spencer, Mr. Kingman's neighbor is the next oldest resident of the town and was one of his first school-mates. Oliver Kingman was associate judge from 1828 to 1846, and the family as a whole became prominent members of the community, three of the sons having been elected to the Legislature. All of them were merchants at some period of their lives, and none of them ever failed in business.

The Rockwells came from Lenox, Mass. Ezra located first in Solon (now Taylor) in 1793, but two years later removed to Cincinnatus and settled on lot 19, where he purchased 100 acres. Thaddeus located on lot 9.

Dr. McWhorter came originally from Washington county, in 1798, but came into Cincinnatus from Oxford, Chenango county. He married a step-daughter of Zurial Raymond, it being the first wedding in the town, and there is quite a romance connected with the event. At the time of the marriage there was no person in Cincinnatus who had the required authority to perform the ceremony; consequently a clergyman was employed to come from Oxford and officiate. Upon his arrival a new difficulty presented itself; the minister had no authority to marry outside of the county of Chenango. So, in order that the bond might be properly tied, the little wedding party, escorted by Thomas Rockwell, started on a trip across the borders of the county. Reaching what they supposed was their destination within the limits of Chenango county, they halted at a beautiful sylvan spot in the opening and there, surrounded only by nature's loveliest works, the twain were made man and wife. It was afterwards learned with some consternation that the wedding party had not in reality passed out of what was then Onondaga county, and it is said that the ceremony was again performed under such circumstances as could leave no doubt as to its legality. Dr. McWhorter became one of the most prominent men in the town and enjoyed an excellent reputation throughout the county. He was a politician of considerable eminence, and was entrusted with the administration of several important offices. From 1804 to 1808 he was a Member of the Assembly. He also held the office of surrogate. He had a large and respectable family of children.

Zurial Raymond, before mentioned, came

from Williamstown, Mass. He located on lot 29, on a Revolutionary bounty claim which came to him through his wife, a widow Young.

Phineas Sergeant, from Oxford, came into Cincinnatus in 1796, and Charles De Belle, from Berkshire, Mass., came in and located on lot 9, in 1797. He married a sister of Thomas Rockwell, and died in 1854; his wife living to a very old age. They had five children.

Jesse Locke, from Oxford, settled on lot 19 about the year 1800. Many of the early settlers in the old town of Cincinnatus have been noticed in the histories of Freetown, Willet and Marathon.

The Wyoming, Onondaga and Oneida Indians made annual visits to the valley of the Otselic, which was a favorite hunting and camping-ground with them. In 1796 forty Oneidas camped on the ground now occupied by the brick store, and during the fall and winter they killed forty-two bears, the oil from which they preserved in some of the larger intestines, using it for cooking, etc. Soon after Col. Kingman began clearing and improving his land they removed farther down the river.

An old resident informs us that these Indians were invariably peaceable and well disposed, and that, although the doors of the settlers' cabins were seldom fastened, it was very rare that anything was missed, the taking of which could be charged to the Indians. He distinctly remembers, when a little boy, of going to bed with his little brothers, in the main room of their log house (there probably was but one room), a blazing fire being left in the great fireplace. As the evening advanced, an Indian would come stealthily in, making scarcely a sound, usually followed by a dog. He would deliberately lie down with his feet to the fire, his gun by his side and the dog next to the gun. Soon another Indian would come in in the same manner and take his position for the night by the side of the other, with gun and dog next to him. So these sons of the forest would continue to come into the house until frequently there would be eight or ten of their swarthy figures lying in a circle like the spokes of a wheel, with their feet all pointing toward the fire and usually alternated in each instance by a dog and a gun. Here they would sleep in peace through the chilly autumn night, and early in the morning start out on the chase. Wolves, bear and other wild animals were then numerous, and it is not more than about sixty years ago that the former animals broke into a sheep inclosure in that neighborhood and killed every one of the flock.

Among the early settlers in the town were the grandparents of Mr. A. M. Greene, who states that his grandfather, Thomas Place, settled here in 1818. He lived until the 6th of March, 1875, when he fell upon a saw-buck, from the effects of which accident he died in a few days. A singular fatality to the other members of the two families of grandparents of Mr. Greene followed this calamity. The wife of Mr. Place, on the 3d of September following her husband's death, made a misstep near the same spot where Mr. Place met with the accident, from the effects of which she also died in a few days. Joseph Greene, the paternal grandfather of A. M. Greene, lived in the town from about the year 1818 until April 15th, 1881, when he fell over a precipice about fifteen feet in height, while going through a piece of woods, and was killed. His wife lost her life by a fall through a hay-mow.

Joseph Greene's son, Albert C., is the father in-law of William O. Greene, the present able editor of the *Otselic Valley Register*.

Although the inhabitants of this town, in

common with those of Solon, Taylor and Willet, were much elated a few years since by the bright prospect of a railroad, which would connect them with the Midland road and with Cortland village, they are thus far disappointed, and the town is isolated from railroad communication. This fact has operated to its disadvantage in many ways — chiefly in retarding the growth of its business centers; where, in former years, as an old resident informs us, at short distances on all the roads were log houses filled with children, when all the trading of the town was done within its limits; now those children have grown to maturity and gone away to railroad centers, and business has fallen off.[1]

The early inhabitants of this town suffered the common inconvenience of having no near grist-mills, and were compelled to go to Chenango Forks, Ludlowville or Manlius Square to have their grinding done. Their grists were usually transported to those points on "drays," a very simple vehicle constructed of a crotched tree with a few pieces of board fastened across the two spreading arms with wooden pins. The team was then hitched to the other branch. The pioneers were equal to any such task as getting eight or ten bushels of grain to mill thirty miles away, without the aid of a vehicle of any description, in the present understanding of that term.

The first grist-mill in the present town of Cincinnatus was built at an early day, some years previous to 1820, by Ephraim Fish. It was located about half a mile from the village. John Kingman, jr., states that this mill was owned by his father from 1820 to 1830, but it is not known from whom he purchased it. This mill and the dam were undermined by a flood in 1830 and it went into disuse thereafter.

A Mr. Wilcox built a mill in the village in 1829, and lived in the upper part of the structure; but it was operated only two or three years.

About the year 1832 or 1833 Dr. John McWhorter erected a mill at Lower Cincinnatus, which was operated until about the year 1850, when it was transformed into a tannery by Kinney & Thompson; it is now used as a tannery by Augustus Smith, who is doing a large business.

George Cole built the most important mill in the town — a steam grist-mill; but it was subsequently taken down and converted into two dwelling houses. There is now no grist-nill within the limits of the town.

As we have already intimated, the inhabitants of this town have recently turned their attention to the production of butter and cheese. About the year 1870 Edward and Eli Colegrove began the operation of their factory above the village, turning out an excellent product. Since then Julius Crittenden built a factory near the town of Willet and Porter Crittenden another two miles south of the village. These factories are all in operation and do a satisfactory and successful business.

VILLAGES.

A beautiful little village named Cincinnatus is situated on the Otselic river on lot 19, which contains two churches (Congregational and Methodist), an academy, a hotel and a number of stores and shops, with about 575 inhabitants. Lower Cincinnatus is a smaller village of about 200 inhabitants, is located a short distance below the upper village, and contains a church, a hotel, a store, a tannery and a cutter factory.

These are the only villages or hamlets in the town. The first merchants in the place

[1] The census shows that, in 1822, [illegible] town was divided, the population of the town was 885. This had increased to 1,200 in 1850, [illegible] 1,119 in 1855, when the census of 1865 showed a population of 1,093.

were James Tanner and Elijah Bliss, and the first store was erected by Col. John Kingman in 1831. John Kingman, jr., went into mercantile business in the spring of that year in a little store which stood on the site of the present brick store. He remained there but one year and was succeeded by Roswell Randall and Jerry Bean, who built the brick store in 1832. During the same year John Kingman, jr., built the store now owned by George Cole and occupied by Charles and Arthur Cogswell, where he traded until 1842.

In 1834 Oliver Kingman began business in a little store on the west side of the creek where he continued until 1854, at which time he and his brother George bought the brick store of Halbert & Bean. In 1856 they sold out to H. M. & Jefferson Kingman. Following is a list of the successive merchants who have occupied the brick store: Randall & Bean, Bean & Niles, Bean, Niles & Boyd, J. C. Bean, Halbert & Bean, H. M. & Jefferson Kingman, Kingman & Sturtevant, Kingman & Lewis, Kingman & Wheeler, Oliver, George & J. Kingman, H. M. & J. Kingman.

In the store occupied by Chas. and Arthur Cogswell the following merchants did business, succeeding John Kingman, who was for a time associated with Charles and George Kingman: Kingman & Perkins, Haynes & Warren, Jefferson Kingman, Monroe Smith, David D. Ufford, who was there from 1866 to 1882, in which latter named year he sold out to the present occupants of the store.

The store building now owned by James Hill was built by Porter Crittenden in 1864, who was there in business with his son-in-law, Monroe E. Smith, until 1868. He was succeeded by D. D. Ufford, who continued until the spring of 1877. In September of that year Mr. Hill took it and has continued the business until the present time.

The grocery and drug business was established in the village about the year 1860. It passed into the hands of Cornell & Gee, Israel Gee & Co., and to the present proprietor, Wilber Holmes, who began it in 1868. He has had immediate charge of the post-office since 1872 and virtually since 1866.

The first postmaster in the place was Major James Tanner. Then came Judson Brown, Judge Niles, John Kingman (1844 until 1850), Oliver Kingman, George Kingman, Jefferson Kingman (1856 to 1865), Israel Gee, and Wilber Holmes, the present incumbent.

The furniture business was established in Cincinnatus by Hitchcock & Barnes, who conducted it until 1877, when they sold out to W. W. Grant, the present proprietor.

B. R. & L. H. Corning have carried on the hardware trade since 1880. C. W. Smith, hats, caps, and gents' furnishing goods, since 1882. S. G. Kien, jewelry, hats, caps, etc., since 1876.

The only hotel in Cincinnatus village, now kept by A. E. Perry, was built by Charles Kingman in 1831. He kept it a few years and was succeeded by John Kingman, after whom I. M. Samson took the house. He kept it five years, and was followed by J. C. Clark, D. J. Sperry, Smith & Sherman Hotchkiss, Gibson Smith, and J. C. Weaver, who repaired it and sold to the present proprietor.

Physicians. — Dr. John McWhorter was the pioneer physician of Cortland county, a native of Washington county, N. Y., and located in Cincinnatus in 1795. He was an able man, a good physician for that period, but he did not confine himself to practicing his profession. Entering the political field, he was honored with several offices, as before stated. Following him came Dr. Norris Briggs, Dr. White, Dr. Lyman Eldridge, a man who became greatly respected for his

attainments in the profession, and as a citizen; Dr. A. D. Reed (now of Marathon), Amasa J. Quivey, who began practice in 1862 as an eclectic, but subsequently studied in the old school of medicine; Marcellus L. Halbert, Dr. Barnes, a student with Dr. Reed, and an assistant surgeon in the United States army, and Dr. Marcellus Smith, now the oldest physician in the place. Dr. Smith became a member of the County Medical Society in 1853. He bought out Dr. Eldridge, and has followed his profession regularly since that time.

Manufactures. — There has been considerable manufacturing done in Cincinnatus for many years, and there are now several important establishments here. Jonas Cormick was the first blacksmith in the town. He was here as early as 1820, and about the same time Solomon Gritman began in the upper village. Cook & Greene were also early blacksmiths. Joseph Gee worked for this firm many years, and then went into business for himself. In 1840 Nathan Dwight formed a partnership with Mr. Gee, which firm continued until 1851, when Gee went out and Mr. Dwight continued alone until 1866. N. A. Robbins has been in the business here for twenty-two years. His shop was built in 1829, and was used for religious purposes until the erection of the Baptist Church. Elder Howe preached in this building, and was the pioneer Baptist minister of Cincinnatus.

The manufacture of cutters was established in 1860 by Larabee & Gee, which business was continued until 1876, when H. C. Larabee removed to the lower village. In 1861 N. France and C. B. Hitchcock came to the place, and the former, after working for the above-mentioned firm until 1874, began business on his own account.

Churches. — Public religious worship did not begin within the limits of Cincinnatus as early as in some other localities, chiefly on account of the proximity of early church organizations in other towns at no great distance. Lots 1, 16, 37, 49, 53 and 62 of this town were set aside for the support of the gospel and schools. The first sermon ever preached within the original limits of Cincinnatus was by Dr. Williston, from the text, "Hear ye." What was known as the Union Congregational Society of Cincinnatus and Solon was organized on the 18th of November, 1822. The trustees were John L. Boyd, Barak Niles and John Covert.

The Congregational Society of Cincinnatus is reported on the minutes of the General Assembly as having been received under the care of the Presbytery of Cortland September 14th, 1831. Just what time it was first organized we have not learned. In 1831 it had one hundred and ten members, of whom sixty were received that year. In 1836 it reported 162 members, but in 1846 the number was reduced to 130. The membership is now much smaller, and the society is feeble. The Rev. Orin Catlin was the stated supply of this church, under the patronage of the American Home Missionary Society, from October, 1832. Rev. Joseph R. Johnson was ordained and installed pastor February 16th, 1846. He continued with the church two or three years, and was then succeeded by Rev. Eleazer T. Ball, who took charge June 8th, 1849. He remained until a few years prior to the last war, when the present pastor, Rev. Edson Rogers, accepted the office.

Schools. — The first school-house in Cincinnatus was built by John Kingman, and stood a short distance south of his house. The first teacher was Miss Hepsy Beebe, but in what year we have not been able to learn Since that time schools have multiplied throughout the town, and the cause of education has flourished.

Cincinnatus Academy was founded in

1857, in which year a spacious and convenient building was erected. This, with its surrounding grounds, handsomely laid out and pleasantly shaded with maples, forms one of the most attractive features of the beautiful village. The people have always been enthusiastic and unanimous in their support of this institution, rendering it one of the most successful and widely known academies in the State. A good library has been furnished, with philosophical apparatus, etc. Following is the present Board of Trustees, of which H. M. Kingman has been president from the first organization: —

H. M. Kingman, president; Henry Knickerbocker, secretary; J. W. Sturtevant, treasurer; B. R. Corning, D. D. Ufford, John Kingman, J. B. Boyd, F. M. Benjamin, M. R. Smith, M. D., M. L. Halbert, M. D., Wilber Holmes, C. W. Smith, C. R. Dickinson, Anson Cogswell; *ex-officio*, Rev. William D. Johnson, Rev. Edson Rogers, Rev. W. H. York.

The first corps of instructors consisted of Ambrose P. Kelsey, A. B., principal; Frank Place, mathematics; John Seaber, penmanship; Miss Mary T. Gleason, preceptress; Mrs. Vivena M. Austin, assistant teacher; Miss Cornelia A. Kingman, music.

The present instructors are Myron E. Carmer, A. B., principal; Miss Alice Jones, preceptress; Miss Stella Kingman, common English. Mrs. E. L. Samson, piano.

There are three courses of study each of which affords a number of optional studies.

First, a business course, including common English branches, not complete till a regent's preliminary certificate is obtained. Book-keeping, algebra, physiology, American history, rhetoric, political economy and physics.

Second, an academic course. Third, a classical, or collegiate entrance course, each terminating in a regent's academic diploma.

There is a flourishing literary society connected with the school, which holds weekly meetings, and affords opportunities for improvement in composition, declamation, extemporaneous speaking, etc. The teachers by their presence at all the meetings, by criticisms and suggestions, endeavor to make this department of the school as efficient and at the same time as agreeable as any other.

Belonging to the institution is a well selected library, to which students have free access. The leading principles of the sciences are illustrated by ample apparatus. Through the kindness of Mr. John Osgood, students in physiology, and like sciences, are often invited to examine with him the minutest workings of nature, by means of a powerful histological microscope, while to students in astronomy he reveals her most vast and distant realms through a telescope having a five-inch lens.

There is one newspaper published in this town — the *Otselic Valley Register;* the publisher is William O. Greene, who became the owner of the establishment in 1879. It has a circulation of about five hundred and is an excellent journal of its class. (See history of journalism of the county, in an earlier chapter.)

LOWER CINCINNATUS

The buildings on the corner at Lower Cincinnatus were built by Dr. John McWhorter, and the store building was erected about the year 1831. It stood empty some time and was afterward kept by Benjamin Kingsley, a Mr. Barnes and others. H. P. Spencer, the present merchant, bought the property of Widow Barnes in 1874; the store being then kept by her son, Frank Barnes.

Charles Goodsell carried on a store on the opposite corner at the time when Benjamin Kingsley was in business.

The manufacture of cutters at Lower Cincinnatus was begun by L. J. Larabee as early as the year 1870. A few years afterward H. C. Larabee came into the business with his father, and in 1879–80 the large buildings were erected to accommodate the increasing demand for their work. They are now employing about twenty-five hands and turn out 3,000 cutters annually.

The hotel at this village was built by Dr. McWhorter about the year 1833 and was kept under his management several years. Reuben Fish, Cornelius Fish and Isaac Fish each kept it for a few years. Mr. Messenger then took the house for a few years and was followed by Adam L. Smith, who kept it for many years until his death, when it was closed as a public house until 1883. D. H. Clark, the present proprietor, then opened the house.

The first Baptist Church at Lower Cincinnatus was organized March 1st, 1823, and was a part of the church in German, Chenango county, which was organized in June, 1805. When it became inconvenient for the inhabitants of Cincinnatus to attend there, the church here was organized. Rev. John Lawin, the first pastor, served the church until 1825. Rev. Solomon Howe from 1827 to 1836. During the year 1831 the present house of worship was built, services prior to that having been held in private houses or shops. The following pastors have officiated for this church: Rev. Wm. Holroyd, 1837 to 1839. Rev. David Leach, 1839 to 1840. Geo. W. Mead (licentiate), 1840 to 1841. Rev. L. E. Swan, 1841 to 1844. Rev. E. P. Dye, 1844 to 1846. Rev. J. F. Stark, 1846 to 1852. Rev. Horace Decker, 1852 to 1857. Rev. L. W. Nichols, 1857 to 1859. Rev. Washington Kingsley, 1859 to 1861. Rev. A. Galpin, 1861 to 1862. Rev. M. R. Everts, 1862 to 1863. Rev. W. G. Dye, 1863 to 1866. Rev. Samuel G. Kein, 1866 to 1867. Rev. E. Holroyd, 1867 to 1869. Rev. G. P. Turnbull, 1869 to 1871. Rev. J. B. Cole, 1871 to 1873. Rev. S. P. Way, 1873 to 1874. Rev. A. J. Baskwell, 1874 to 1875. Rev. W. W. Beardsley, 1875 to 1876. Rev. Daniel Reese, 1877 to 1879. Rev. C. R. Corning, 1879 to 1882. Rev. Wm. L. Johnson assumed the pastorate in 1882; the society now numbers eighty-two. The present officers are Russell Grant, Edwin D. White, deacons. Joseph Tice, clerk. M. L. Halbert, treasurer. Joseph Tice, Oscar E. Nichols, M. L. Halbert, Russell Grant, Edwin D. White, Lafayette Spencer, trustees. The original members of this church who were most prominent, were John R. McWhorter, Alex. Rice, Nathaniel Spencer, Ebenezer Andrus, John and Isaac Smith, George Kingman and others.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Cincinnatus was organized in 1841. The first trustees were Oliver L. Sterling, Chas. Higgins, Chas. Kingman, Lyman Eldridge, Porter Crittenden, and Hiram Rogers. Members of the society were David White and wife, Abner Wood and wife, Abel Dickinson, Lyman Eldridge and wife, Chauncey Phelps, Oliver L. Sterling and wife, Fabus Kinney, G. L. Cole and wife and others. The church edifice was built in 1843–44 and cost $1,600. The building was repaired and enlarged at considerable expense in 1872. In 1863–64 the church received large accessions through the division of the Congregational society. Several revivals have occurred in the church, the last being that of 1877. An excellent parsonage was built in 1859. The present membership is ninety. The ministers who have officiated here are Revs. Leonard Bowdish, L. H. Stanley, D. W. Thurston, Wm. Bixby, W. H. Miller, Thos. D. Wire, E. C. Curtis, G. S. White, L. Hartsough, J. H. Barnard, B. Shove, R. H. Clark, J.

V. Benham, W. M. Henry, W. D. Fox, A. C. Smith, W. H. York, M. Z. Haskins, 1884.

At the breaking out of the Southern Rebellion, no town in the county came forward with more patriotism and liberality in men and means in support of the government than Cincinnatus. Under the calls of the president for troops the following men enlisted from the town and were credited on the different quotas, receiving the bounties as they appear: —

Call of October, 1863, February 1st, and March, 1864. Bounty to each, $300. Total, $6,600. — Jeremiah Scouton, William C. Pearse, William Kimball, Elihu M. Chamberlain, Stephen Ansel, Sidney W. Clark, Ira W. Forest, Christopher M. Childs, Caleb D. Burlingame, James B. Decker, Volney Weeks, James E. Arnold, John H. Glover, Charles S. Cutting, Herbert Berkley, Geo. Berkley, Urbane B. Smith, Augustine L. Aney, Willett L. McKinney, Henry West, Alfred P. Ransford, Harlan P. Thompson.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty to each, $1,000; brokerage, $25. Total bounties, $22,500; total brokerage, $550. — John Savage, John Simpson, John Phillips, Matio Branchett, Jarvis Kelley, Marcus Forrest, Darvilla Ford, Samuel Gibbs, Samuel Van Wort, Thomas Hale, William J. Holmes, Watson J. Holmes, John M. Parks, Alfred Rorepaugh, James W. Sampson, Isaac W. Sherwood, Orlando Vosburgh, Seneca Wright, Peter Ratchel, Edward Clark, George Sweet, Michael Grant, John Nowlan, Patrick Hughs.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty to each, $600; brokerage, $15. Total bounties, $5,100; total brokerage, $135. — J. A. Perkins, James Riley, Phill Beeman, Charles Ernst, Henry Jackson, Henry Physic, Justus Bloomer, Edward W. McFarland, Robert Bundy.

Recapitulation. Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, February and March, $6,600; paid for filling quota; call July 18th, 1864, $23,050; paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $5,235. Grand total for all calls, $34,885.

The early records of this town have been destroyed. The present officers of the town are as follows: —

Supervisor — W. W. Wood.

Town clerk — W. S. Carruth.

Justices of the peace — John D. Fish, Charles Nichols and M. L. Halbert.

Assessor — Reuben P. Fish.

Commissioner of highways — Lewis White.

Collector — Evander Smith.

Constables — Evander Smith, Ed. L. Brown, James M. Torrey, Fred E. Nichols, Luell Harvey.

Overseer of the poor — Richard Cornell.

Inspectors of election — B. H. Livermore, Adelbert E. Delevan.

CHAPTER XXIV.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF TRUXTON

THE town of Truxton lies upon the northern border of the county, east of the center, and is bounded on the north by Onondaga county; on the east by Cuyler; on the south by Solon, and on the west by Homer and Preble.

The town was named in honor of Commodore Truxton, and was organized from Fabius, April 8th, 1808, embracing the southern half of that military township. The northern tier of lots of Solon were annexed on the 4th of April, 1811. The town of Cuyler was set off from the eastern side of Truxton on the 18th of November, 1858.

In the earlier organization this town was embraced in Pompey, which was organized in 1794 and included Pompey, Fabius and Tully and also a part of the Onondaga Reservation lying south of the old Genesee road and east of Onondaga creek. Fabius was erected from Pompey in 1798 and at that time included two military townships, Fabius and Tully, comprising the present towns of Fabius, Tully, Truxton, Preble and Scott, with portions of Spafford and Otisco.

The surface of this town is chiefly a broken upland, divided into ridges which have a northerly and southerly direction. The eastern branch of the Tioughnioga river enters the town near the center of the eastern border and flows westerly until near the center of the town, then takes a southwesterly course until it leaves the town. The other streams of the town are the tributaries of the Tioughnioga, the Westcott and Stewart brooks and Labrador creek from the north, Cheningo creek from the east, and Trout brook from the south.

On the northern border of the county is a small sheet of water called Labrador Pond, which is noted for its surrounding picturesque scenery. On a small brook which flows into the outlet of this pond from the east is a beautiful cascade known as Tinker's falls, around which is also romantic and attractive scenery.

What are known as the Truxton hills lie north of the river. Nearly their whole surface is divided into sharp ridges with steep declivities, their summits being termed "hog's-backs."

The soil of the town is generally a sandy and gravelly loam. The Truxton flats are rich and very productive and well adapted to growing all kinds of grain.

The town is next to the largest in the county, its acreage being 28,099; only Virgil is larger. The assessed valuation of Truxton is $16.95 per acre. In 1810 the taxable property of the town was assessed at $47,673. In 1883 the assessed value of real estate was $476,420, and that of the personal property, $20,400. In 1810 the village of Truxton contained only twenty houses. It now has a population of about 300.

The first settler in the town of Truxton was Samuel C. Benedict, who located on lot 12 in the year 1793. No record exists of his birth-place and little is known of his career subsequent to coming into this town. He was certainly a hardy and courageous pioneer who dared push his way into the wilderness far beyond the boundaries of civilization and there plant the standard of a new settlement. Yet here he came and builded for himself a log cabin which long bore for him the eloquent title, "home."

And here occurred the first birth in the town, as well as the first death — children of Mr. Benedict in both instances. It is to be regretted that we can give no further details of the later life of Mr. Benedict; but it is often the case that he who was most instrumental in making the first footprints of civilization in a wilderness, must remain forever unknown and almost unhonored by posterity.

In 1794 Nathaniel Potter, Jonah Stiles, Christopher Whitney and Benjamin Brown came into the town and settled in various locations. Potter was from Saratoga county, N. Y., and purchased lots 77, 86 and 96. On the latter lot he erected a small house. In July, 1798, he was suddenly killed by a falling tree.

Jonah Stiles came from Rupert, Vermont, and located on lot 4, where he purchased 100 acres, which farm was subsequently owned and occupied by Samuel Freeman. His daughter Julia married John Wicks, and Sophia married Alexander Forbes, of Litch field, Ohio. His son, Jonah, located at Seville, Ohio; Samuel at Franklin, Delaware county, N. Y., and Otis at Stilesville, N. Y.

Christopher Whitney was also from an eastern State and located on lot 3. One of his daughters became the wife of Moses Hopkins, a pioneer of Cortland village.

Among other very early settlers were Robert Knight, from Monmouth, New Jersey; Hugh Stewart, from Colerain, Mass.; John Jeffrey and Enos Phelps, from New Jersey; Billy Trowbridge and Dr. John Miller, from Duchess county. The last named was the first physician in the town, where he lived and practiced his profession until the year 1862, when he died. He was one of the best known and most respected men of the county during his life.

John Shedd located early in the year 1797, on lot 63, and during the same year the Stewarts came in. Nathaniel E. located on lot 63 and Charles on 93, "State's hundred."

In 1798 a number of settlers came into the town and located. Of these Robert McNight and John Jeffrey settled on lot No. 2. Billy Trowbridge settled on lot 5. He became a prominent citizen and filled several political offices; was twice elected to the Assembly and was sheriff one term.

His son, Smith, located in Syracuse, and John, Levi and Hubbard at Detroit, Mich.

Stephen Hedges came to this town from Troy and settled on lot 93.

Increase M. Hooker was a native of Bennington, Vt. He was with Ethan Allen during a portion of the Revolutionary War and witnessed the conflict at Bennington on the 16th of August, 1777. He was married in Litchfield, Conn., and afterward removed to Greene county, N. Y.; in 1797 he removed to Solon, locating on lot 88. Soon afterward he purchased a grist-mill of Joseph Sweetland; it contained one run of stones and was covered on the outside with bark from elm trees. It was rebuilt in 1816 by Mr. Hooker's sons. In 1842 he removed to New Jersey. In 1848 he made a visit to a son in Illinois and while returning, died at Onondaga Hollow.

Lewis Wicks came from Saratoga county in 1804 and located during 1804.

The Pierce family, which became a prominent one in the town, were from Colerain. Zebulon came in 1805 and located on lot 34. Judah settled on lot 12 in 1806. He accumulated a large property and was an influential citizen; he married Fanny Smith, an aunt of Allen B. Smith.

The Buells of this county originally descended from one William Buell, of Australia, who went to Constantinople, and in 1621 to Wales, and from there to Connecticut in 1634. Thomas Buell, the father of F. M. Buell, of Truxton, is of the seventh generation of William Buell. Thomas Buell

came to Truxton in 1806; kept hotel in 1808. He married Betsey Freeman, daughter of Elder Freeman, and had seven children by this wife. F. M. Buell was born in 1811. He was married June 9th, 1841, to Emily F. Howard, of Colerain, Mass. In 1865 he moved to the village of Truxton. In 1871 he went into the custom house, New York, and was there several years. Howard F. Buell, the former editor of the *Cortland News*, is their son.

Rufus Freeman, of Colerain, Mass., came here in 1806, and in 1807 organized the Baptist Church of this place. He had four sons, all Baptist preachers. Allen B. Freeman organized the first Baptist church of that city in 1833, which then had but fifteen members.

Deacon James Bell was from Rupert, Vt., and came to Truxton in the winter of 1812, locating on lot 95. In 1821 he removed to Medina county, Ohio, where his sons, James and Jacob, became active and prominent politicians, the former being elected to the Legislature.

James Kenney and his wife lived in Truxton as early as 1809, and on the second of May of that year his son, Moses Kenney, was born. He became a well-known and respected citizen of the town. His father died when he was four years old.

Hosea Kenney is now the oldest citizen of the town of Truxton, where he has resided for more than seventy-five years. He was born in Stoddard, N. H., October 31st, 1791, and is the sole survivor of a family of four sons and five daughters, the descendants of the Rev. Isaac Kenney, a Baptist minister, who died at Roylston, Mass., September 2d, 1801, and who, according to the most authentic information obtainable, descended in a direct line from Henry Kinne, who came from Holland and settled in Salem, Mass., about 1670. From this reverend progenitor has sprung a numerous race, numbering more than three hundred, and extending in several instances to the sixth generation. The third son, Hosea, when he was thirteen years old first came to this town with his elder brother, Isaac. In 1813 he purchased sixty acres of land on lot No. 21 in Truxton, of Isaac Cooper, of Cooperstown, N. Y., at six dollars per acre. July 7th, 1814, at Brookfield, N. Y., he married Nancy, a daughter of Captain Asa Lamb, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. With his young bride he immediately commenced the struggle of life on his newly acquired woodland home, where, with a strong arm and determined purpose, they literally "hewed out" a competence. After having, from time to time, added to his first purchase, in 1842 he retired from active life and took up his residence in the village of Truxton, where he has since resided. His farm, then consisting of about one hundred and fifty acres, he conveyed to his two elder sons, and subsequently the title to the whole was acquired by his oldest son, Hosea M., who still holds the same. His wife, Nancy, died August 5th, 1862, and February 15th, 1865, he married Mrs. Marana French, who died May 14th, 1880. He now resides with his youngest son, Amos L., and though vigorous in his ripe old age, still there are unmistakable evidences that he is rapidly approaching the end. In 1816 he united with the First Baptist Church of Truxton, of which the Rev. Thomas Purinton was then pastor. He has at all times led a consistent and faithful Christian life and maintained an honored standing with the people of his first choice. His attendance at the regular services of the church has been constant, and he now deems it the greatest of deprivations, if for a single Sabbath he is prevented from listening to the preaching of the Gospel. Of his four sons, Hosea M., James, Ira E., and Amos L.,

all survive except James, who died March 28th, 1883.

Hosea M. and his son Marcus E., under the firm name of Kenney & Son, are retail dealers in hardware and manufacturers of tinware in Truxton, and his elder son, Manly L., occupies the family homestead.

Ira E. graduated in the theological department of Madison University in 1848, and was ordained to the ministry the same year by the Baptist Church of Truxton. In 1883 the University of Des Moines, Iowa, conferred upon him the honorary degree of D. D., and the same year called him to fill the president's chair of that institution, where he is now doing a good work.

Amos L. graduated at Hamilton College in 1843, was admitted as an attorney and counselor at law in May, 1848, and has since practiced his profession at Truxton. His only son, Eudorus C., graduated at Cornell University in 1882 with the degree of B. Sc., with mathematics as a specialty, and for the last two years has been the instructor in mathematics and the sciences in the Morgan Park Military Academy at Morgan Park, Illinois.

Alexander Lansing came from Schenectady, N. Y., in 1811, and located on lot 13, where J. O. Wicks now lives, and came to the village in 1861, where he died in 1862. When he first came to the town he dug a well on his farm, in which he found a live frog in a stone which he had broken open. His son, Peter Lansing, became a candidate for governor of Nebraska in 1880 on the Greenback ticket, but was defeated.

Henry Patrick, a native of Vermont, came to Truxton about the year 1815, and settled near the town line. He had a tannery at the State bridge and followed that business for many years. He died in 1862, seventy-two years old. His second wife was Miss Clara Keeler, a daughter of Joseph Keeler, said to be the second settler in the town. De Witt Patrick, his son, was born in 1828, and was married to Sabra Risley in 1849. He has but one daughter, Mrs. Albert Stevens, of the firm of Stevens & Cornic, and but one son, who is now of the firm of Hilton & Patrick.

In 1814 Asa Babcock, who was originally from Rhode Island, came in from Madison county and engaged in mercantile trade, which he continued for a period of forty-three years. He was also postmaster for a long term, the office being located where it is at the present time.

Asa Campbell was a native of Hampden county, Mass., and settled at Cheningo in 1816. Stephen Ambler came in from New Berlin and located on lot 83 in 1818, purchasing 112 acres. He was one of the leading men of the town, a successful farmer and a prominent member of the Presbyterian society.

Freeman Schermerhorn, a worthy citizen of Truxton, was married to his present wife, N. Libbie Radway, October 25th, 1876, and is the father of four children, viz.: George W. (by former wife), Lizzie, Vernie and Nettie, children by his present wife.

Mr. Schermerhorn was a soldier in the late war, a sergeant of Co. G, 76th regiment, from Sept. 21st, 1861, to Dec., 1862. He was taken sick after the battle of Bull Run, and afterwards honorably dismissed from the service. He has been a prominent official member of the Baptist church since 1866.

Rev. Thomas Purinton, the eminent divine of this town, came here in 1822 and located on lot 21, where he remained twenty-five years. His son-in-law, Allen B. Smith, now of Cortland, came from Colerain, Franklin county, Mass., in 1837 and located on lot 21. He was a successful farmer, but after remaining on his farm sixteen years, he removed to Cortland, where he engaged in the hardware trade.

He married his second wife, Miss Carrie Rindge, daughter of Scepta Rindge, in 1859.

These were the principal pioneers who left the permanent impress of their work upon what was before an unbroken wilderness in this town. Looking at its present aspect as one of the most thrifty and prosperous farming districts in the county, neat farm houses thickly scattered throughout the town, with a lively business center in their midst, it is quite safe to assume that the hardy pioneers whose settlements we have noted "builded better than they knew."

Milling, etc. — The streams of Truxton furnished many excellent mill sites to the early inhabitants, a number of which were made available for different purposes. There are now in the town two grist-mills (there were five at one period), a number of steam saw-mills, several factories and other manufacturing works.

The first grist-mill in the town was erected by Joseph Sweetland, on lot 94; it was the one already referred to as being covered with elm bark. It is not known in just what year it was built, but it was sold to Increase M. Hooker not much later than 1800 and passed from him to his son, who rebuilt it in 1816. In the course of time it became the property of George Pond, and finally passed into the hands of the present owner, Kirtland C. Arnold, who bought it in October, 1874, paying for it the handsome sum of $10,000.

The second grist-mill in the town was erected in 1809, by Jonah Stiles and Alvin Pease, on the site afterward occupied by the wool exchange. In 1810 they erected a carding-machine.

A Mr. Hitchcock built a saw-mill on the opposite side of the stream at an early day, taking his water from the same dam. This mill was running when A. B. Smith came to the town in 1837, and is still in operation. The plank for several miles of the old Syracuse and Cortland plank road were sawed at this mill. Other mills and manufactories will be alluded to in the history of the village further on.

After the organization of the town, April 8th, 1808, the first town meeting was held at the house of Charles Stewart, and resulted in the selection of Charles Stewart for supervisor, and Reuben Risley for town clerk. The records of this town are incomplete and we have been unable to obtain a list of the supervisors and town clerks. Dr. J. C. Nelson, the present supervisor, has held the office of supervisor continuously since 1872.

The present officers of the town are as follows: —

Supervisor — J. C. Nelson.

Town clerk — John O'Donnell.

Commissioner of highways — Daniel J. Hartnett.

Assessors — Patrick O'Donnell, L. L. Schellinger, M. Wiegand.

Overseer of the poor — Jeremiah O'Connor.

Collector — O. J. Kinney.

Constables — Llewellyn Perry, J. P. Vincent, Josiah McChesney, Charles Bosworth, O. J. Kinney.

Excise commissioners — James L. Goddard, Dennis Collins, David Wallace.

Inspectors — Tiler W. Pierce, John Nott, and Alvorado Lansing.

Justices of the peace — Charles Hayes, Alvorado Lansing and G. H. Towle.

At the breaking out of the Rebellion the town of Truxton showed her patriotic inclinations by prompt and liberal offers of men and means in support of the government. The following list shows the names of the men who entered the service from the town under the different calls for troops and who were paid bounties, with the amount in each case: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty, $300. Total, $13,800. — John J. Dodd, Edward Dodd, Hiram Hall, John P. White, John R. Babcock, Henry Jones, Charles Knight, William H. Gable, William Laing, John Kline, Main E. Cooke, James W. Howry, Isaiah Marshal, John Milton, Chas. Morgan, George W. Steel, John Smith, Barney Riley, Charles Kirby, Daniel O'Niel, James Cranney, Sylvanus E. Parker, John Leng, Frederick J. Carver, William Tillman, William Habden, James Haulman, Peter Young, Henry Farwell, Philip Flanders, John Day, James Clark, George H. Ackerman, Charles E. Whitmore, Henry Bonney, William Armstrong, John Riley, George Robinson, Edward E. Nelson, Edward Fegan, Lewis Smith, George Chapman, John White, William Henderson, James McCarthy, William P. Pyne.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty, $600; $300 paid to seven; $700 to two; $500 to one. Total, $13,300. Brokerage, $600. — James H. Washburn, Theodore J. Purdebaugh, Samuel R. Pierce, Henry D. Clark, Albert Haynes, Harvey Dutcher, Erastus A. Reed, Daniel Jones, James Cain, John Morris, Egbert E. Palmer, Lucian B. Randall, James Steel, jr., Isaac Dobinson, Levi S. Henry, Oren W. Munroe, Andrew J. Neff, Benjamin L. Neff, Herbert C. Rorapaugh, George W. Smith, Chester Wood, William B. Greenleaf, Calvin Lane, William H. Ayrisworth, Albert Sylvester, John Shaver.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls of October 17th, 1863, and February and March, 1864, $13,800; paid for filling quota, call of July 18th, 1864, $13,900. Grand total, $27,700.

VILLAGES.

The pretty village of Truxton is situated near the center of the town on the line of the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira Railroad, and has a population of about three hundred. It contains three churches, two hotels, several stores, shops, etc.

Stephen Hedges is said to have been the first merchant in Truxton. The second store was built by Asa Babcock in 1814. It stood just in rear of the one now owned by J. C. Wiegand, and was rebuilt by Mr. Babcock in 1834, who continued mercantile business here until 1857, a period of forty-three years. He then sold out to S. Goddard, who conducted the store until 1878, when Mr. Wiegand purchased the business. While Mr. Goddard was in possession he refurnished the store and changed its character to a drug store.

Mr. Goddard came to the village in 1828, at which time both Asa and Gideon C. Babcock were merchants here. The latter was located in an old building afterward used as a tin shop, and which has been repaired and fitted up for a dwelling by J. C. Wiegand. Gideon Babcock was succeeded by Thomas Osborne, John Ferguson, John Trowbridge and Chauncey Hicock, all of whom kept the general stock of goods usually sold in country stores. Mr. Hicock, the last merchant in the old store, died in 1844.

The store at present occupied by E. B. Lincoln & Co. was built by S. Goddard in 1836 for a wagon shop; it was used as such up to 1854 and then sold to Geo. W. Bliss, who turned it into a store, where he did business until 1868; the store was then leased to Leander Maycumber, and in 1883 to the present proprietors.

Mr. Goddard is a native of Windham county, Vt., where he was born in 1811. He was engaged in the manufacture of carriages from 1828 (the date of his arrival in Truxton) until 1857. His work acquired an excellent reputation and he not only made many of the first carriages used in the county, but shipped many to the East

and to the far West. Besides his career as a manufacturer and merchant, he has filled the office of supervisor of the town several terms.

The dry goods trade in Truxton is now in the efficient hands of Hilton & Patrick and E. B. Lincoln & Co., both of which firms have creditable, thriving stores. Hilton & Patrick succeeded E. P. Summers in 1883; the latter firm having traded there since 1872.

The furniture trade was established by A. L. Pomeroy before 1837 and was continued by him more than twenty-five years; the store was then conducted by Albert Pierce one year and subsequently by T. I. Woodward, the present proprietor, who took it in 1878.

Blacksmithing was carried on in the village at an early day by William Jones, who continued it for many years and became quite wealthy. He also manufactured wagons quite extensively, employing often from twenty to thirty hands. He was burned out and on the site of his works erected a nice house and barn. Thomas Dodd, George Crofoot and Dennis Collins are the blacksmiths of the village at the present time.

The butter firkin and tub factory, now under the management of Stevens & Connic, was established in 1876 by Skeel & Connic; it is an industry of importance, employing quite a number of hands. The business is carried on in a building which was formerly used by Skeel & Bryant for a flouring-mill. The present proprietors also own a steam saw-mill which is operated in connection with the factory.

The grist-mill in the village was built by O. J. Kenney & Son in 1881 and is still operated by them.

In later years the dairying interest has developed in this region until it is one of the first importance among farmers. This fact led to the erection of cheese factories in different parts of the town. The Truxton cheese factory, situated about half a mile east of the village and now owned by William McAdam, was built just prior to the last war by Moses Kenney. Another factory is owned by Chauncey Stevens, three miles north of here.

The grocery trade was first carried on as a separate business by Chapman & Bosworth, some time before the last war. J. O. Connor & Co. began trade in 1876, in the building erected by Mr. Goddard in 1826.

The first hardware store in the village was kept in 1844 by D. Carr. It was afterwards located in a building which has since been changed and is now used as a dwelling by J. C. Wiegand. The business was established by a Mr. Dryer about the year 1855 in a small way, in connection with a work-shop in that line. Knapp & Kinney succeeded in 1868 and continued until 1871, when the firm became Kinney & Son (H. M. & M. E. Kinney) who built the present store in 1876. The large store is kept well stocked and the firm have a large country patronage.

The drug trade was probably confined to the practicing physicians until McKay & Nelson began the business about the year 1850. S. Goddard purchased the stock in 1857, enlarged it and carried on the business until succeeded by K. C. Arnold & Bros., and then by J. C. Wiegand.

The tailoring business was established here by A. H. McKay before 1838; he also kept a small stock of ready-made clothing, but continued only a few years, when he sold out to Miss Winne, who established the millinery business. Mrs. C. A. Davenport has traded in this line since the spring of 1883.

About the year 1860 Wm. Beatie converted a building on lot 21 into a cheese factory which was quite largely patronized

for a number of years. He also had branch factories from which he brought the curd to this central factory. He still runs the establishment.

The first post-office in Truxton village was in charge of Stephen Hedges, who has already been alluded to as one of the prominent early pioneers. Dr. John Miller was postmaster from 1805 for a period of twenty-five years. Asa Babcock became postmaster in 1837 and held the office until his death. Alanson Coats was postmaster a few years. It is now in charge of J. C. Wiegand.

Lawyers.— The first lawyers to open an office in Truxton were Messrs. Palmer & Williams. Their office was in a building which is still standing just north of the site of the old hotel, which was burned.

Alanson Coats was probably the next lawyer. He served in the War of 1812 and came to Truxton in 1818, where he followed the mercantile business a number of years. He then studied law in the office of Palmer & Williams and in 1836 began practice, which he continued up to 1852 or 1853, going then to Syracuse. A few years later he removed to Homer, where he died in 1865.

Amos L. Kenney is the present lawyer in the village. He studied with Mr. Coats in 1842 and 1843.

Physicians.— The first physician in the town and village of Truxton was John Miller, who came to the place in 1801, locating on lot 93. He practiced his profession twenty-five years and died in 1862. He was postmaster in 1805 and retained that office for twenty-five years; was justice of the peace from 1812 to 1821 and one of the county judges from 1817 to 1820; was elected a Member of Assembly in 1816, in 1820 and again in 1846. In 1826–27 he represented his district in Congress. He was elected an honorary member of the State Medical Society in 1808 and at his death was the oldest member. Dr. Miller was a man of marked character, unswerving integrity and one of the most useful citizens of Cortland county during its early years.

Dr. Azariel Blanchard, a brother of Wm. Blanchard, of Cuyler, came here soon after the War of 1812 and remained until 1844, when he removed to Wisconsin, where he died in 1878.

Dr. Eli Cook bought out Dr. Blanchard and remained in the village eight or ten years.

Dr. Judson C. Nelson, a graduate of the Geneva Medical College (1848), came here in 1851–52 and has been the leading physician since that time, with the exception of three years in the army as regimental surgeon, and two terms as Member of Assembly — 1876 and 1883. He has also been supervisor of the town several times.

The first hotel in the village was opened by Thomas Buell in 1808.

There were two hotels in Truxton village in 1828, when S. Goddard moved to the place. The first was kept by L. L. Merrill and was known as the Mansion House. He kept it until about 1845, when he removed to a farm in the town. The house was burned about the year 1867.

The second hotel was located about twenty rods from the one above described, and was kept by Arnold Hicock, who was succeeded by Abel Perry, an eastern man. He sold it to Wm. Jones in 1842, who converted it into a dwelling. It was burned about the year 1850.

The Stearns Hotel was formerly a dwelling and owned by Enoch Benedict, but was changed into a hotel by Abijah Pierce. Rial Schellinger owned it afterwards several years. After him came John Hills, B. F. Stearns (1872) and C. H. Smith, the present proprietor, in January, 1882.

The Ryan Hotel was built by Asa God-

dard in 1826; a portion of it was used by a Mr. Van Allen as a store and a portion as a dwelling. During the late war it was transformed into a hotel by George Pond. He kept it but a short time, and was followed by I. Rogers, John Wheeler, A. L. Pomeroy, James H. Ashby and the present proprietor, M. Ryan, who took charge of it in March, 1882.

The early hotels in the country places received perhaps a more liberal patronage than in later years. The roads were traveled in such localities by numerous stage coaches, and all the merchandise and stock for manufacturers were brought in by teams, all of which made business at the hotels.

Truxton was isolated from railroad communication until the building of the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira road. The consummation of this undertaking was of great benefit to the town at large and will undoubtedly be still more beneficial in the future. The village is thrifty and the inhabitants are imbued with the belief that theirs is not one of the places that is to be killed by the construction of a railroad and the consequent diversion of business to other points.

Churches. — This town was visited at a very early day by itinerant missionaries and public worship was begun in 1801 under the leadership of the Rev. Hugh Wallis. In 1811 a Congregational Church was organized, consisting of twenty-one members, by Rev. Wm. J. Wilcox, assisted by the Rev. John Davenport and Rev. Joseph Avery, a missionary from Massachusetts. At the time of the organization of the church, or soon after, Rev. Mr. Jewell began laboring with the church as stated supply, and continued for some time. He was succeeded by Rev. Oliver Hitchcock in 1813 and he by Rev. Mathew Harrison in 1814. How long Mr. Harrison continued with the church we are not informed. In 1819 Rev. Ezra Woodworth supplied the church and was succeeded the following year by Rev. Caleb Clark, then a licentiate preacher. On the 5th day of June, 1833, Mr. Clark was ordained and installed pastor of the church, which position he held until the 15th of April, 1850. Since that time Rev. Charles E. Avery, Rev. John N. Lewis and Rev. Huntington Lyman have severally been connected with the church as stated supplies. Rev. Wm. T. Doubleday was the stated supply in 1848 and remained between two and three years. In 1813 the church was connected with the Presbytery of Onondaga and was transferred to the Presbytery of Cortland upon the creation of that body. The church enjoyed a revival in 1820, when sixty-seven were added to its membership. In 1825 there were 106 members in the society and in 1837 it reported 188. Its ministers were always supported without foreign aid and a comfortable and commodious house of worship was erected in 1820, 62 by 44 feet. The average attendance at public worship in 1850 was about 175; but from that time the membership began to decrease for various reasons until at the present time there is scarcely more than an organization. The trustees are George Bliss, D. Carr and D. S. Severance.

The Methodist Episcopal society was organized in October, 1879, since which time public services have been held in a building the use of which was secured for that purpose. W. A. York and at the present time T. F. Harris, who visits the place at stated periods from East Homer, have ministered to the society. Stephen Patrick is class-leader, and F. I. Woodward, Nelson Haskins, Dr. Frank Haskins and Stephen Patrick are stewards.

The first Baptist Church in the town and village was organized by Rev. Rufus Freeman in 1806. Mr. Freeman came from Colerain, Mass., and was a preacher in that

place. The church edifice was erected in 1818. Rev. Thomas Purinton, one of the ablest ministers the Baptist church ever had in Cortland county, came also from Colerain, Mass., in 1822, and located on a farm on lot 21, where he continued to live for many years. He had studied medicine under Dr. Ross, of Colerain, but upon making ready to begin practice was converted, when he took a theological course of study and after being licensed to preach remained in the ministry for a term of years before coming westward. He followed farming in Truxton, preaching at different surrounding points. It was then his custom to preach twice on the Sabbath in the church in the village, and on Sabbath evening in some school-house in another part of the town, and on Thursday evening again in some other remote place in the large old town, which was ten miles square. Mr. Purinton received as salary $200 a year for the first twenty years of his ministry, and was paid by subscription in cash or produce, as was most convenient and satisfactory to his people. It was Mr. Purinton's custom to always ask for the subscription paper after it had circulated, which he would look over and after the names of those whom he considered unable to pay, would write the word "arranged;" with such persons their subscriptions were considered as "settled." The rate of postage on letters was twenty-five cents, and it is said that Mr. Purinton did not receive sufficient cash to pay postage on the letters which his calling compelled him to write. After twenty years of hard and unselfish service in the church, his salary was raised to $300 a year, and so it remained during the succeeding five years, which was the remainder of his stay in Truxton. After all of this long and faithful service, a curious record was left regarding his work. The church was desirous of extending to Brother Purinton a vote of thanks for his untiring efforts to promote the cause of religion; this was accordingly done—he was "voted thanks" for his faithfulness; but the clerk, in recording the matter, must have become confused, for he wrote—"Brother Purinton was exhorted to greater faithfulness" in the cause of Christ. This good man was followed among others by Rev. Luke Davis, two years; Rev. William McCarthy, four years; Rev. E. D. Reed, eight years; Rev. A. P. Graves, two years; Rev. S. C. Ainsworth, eight years; Rev. Mr. Taylor, two years; Rev. A. M. Bennett, five years; Rev. W. F. Wakefield, two years; Rev. F. H. Gates, a year and a half and the Rev. J. A. Rich, who took charge of the church in February, 1882, and remained until March, 1884. The deacons are Hosea M. Kenney and Henry McKevitt. The last named succeeded Deacon Freeman Schermerhorn, who held this position from 1865 until 1883.

The membership of the church was 200 in 1869. It is now something less than fifty.

CHAPTER XXV.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CUYLER.

THE town of Cuyler is situated in the extreme northeastern part of the county. It was formed from the town of Truxton on the 18th of November, 1858, and was the last town erected in Cortland county.

The surface of the town is broken, consisting largely of hilly uplands, excellently adapted for grazing. The principal stream is the east branch of the Tioughnioga river, which flows diagonally across the town, entering near the northeast corner and crossing the eastern boundary near its center. The Onondaga branch of the river is its largest tributary, and flows directly south from Kenney's Settlement. The other streams of the town are small brooks, most of them tributary to the Tioughnioga, and generally of clear, wholesome water.

Muncy Hill, near the center of the town, is the highest land. The town comprises 27,581⅝ acres of land, with an assessed valuation of $15.04 per acre. The soil on the hills is a yellow loam with a clay subsoil; in the valleys it is a light, sandy loam, mixed with alluvial deposit.

As before stated, the town of Truxton originally embraced that of Cuyler. The first settlement made in that territory was in the year 1793. Prior to that date the region was a favorite home of the bear, the panther, the wolf and the deer, which roamed in great numbers over its hills, through its gorges and along its streams, in blissful ignorance of the coming crusade of the white man. The first house erected in that broad domain was called "Home," a name significant of approaching civilization, and the beginning of an era of progress.

The first settlement within the present limits of the town of Cuyler was made in the year 1794, when Nathaniel Potter, Christopher Whitney, David Morse and Benjamin Brown came in. Samuel C. Benedict had then occupied lot number 12 for one year, during which period he was monarch of all, and more, than he surveyed. French traders may have visited the lands in this section at an earlier period, coming in from Onondaga or Madison county; but if so, there was no trace of them left, nor anything to indicate to the first settler of whom we have any record that he was not the only white man who had thus far penetrated this wilderness.

Nathaniel Potter came from Saratoga county, N. Y., in the spring of 1794. The family consisted of himself, his wife and an infant daughter five weeks old. Mr. Potter settled on lot 96, paying one dollar and ten cents an acre for his land. He built a small house near the State bridge. The reader of to-day finds it difficult to realize the privations and hardships to which the earliest settlers in the remote parts of this county were subjected. A bit of Mr. Potter's experience may aid in such realization. Penelope Potter, the infant before alluded to, was born in 1793, a little prior to the removal of her parents to their wilderness home. In one year after their arrival the mother died, it being the first death in that town. Mr. Potter was then compelled to go a distance of four miles for assistance in performing the last sad rites (and doubly sad under those circumstances) over the remains of his dead companion. Returning, he found the infant child nestled close to the breast of its departed mother, as was

its wont when satisfying its hunger. The dead at such times had but few mourners; but none can doubt their depth of grief; and the preparations for interment were necessarily of the simplest kind. The coffin for Mrs. Potter's remains was constructed in part from the door of the house, that furnishing the only suitable boards then available.

In the year 1798, the children of Mr. Potter were entirely bereft, the father being killed in the month of July by the falling of a tree. His little boy, then about five years old, was with him at the time of the unfortunate event. Mrs. Joseph Keeler was the first to find the body, mangled and crushed under a large tree. She kindly administered to his wants as best she could; water, for which he asked, was brought to him in his hat, there being no other means at hand.

The little daughter, Penelope Potter, always resided on her father's land, in the homestead, and died there. Owing to some defect in the title to the farm (a common occurrence in those days), she bought and paid for the land a second time. In 1810 she was married to Nathaniel Patrick, by whom she had fourteen children, one of whom was the Hon. Stephen Patrick, of the town of Truxton.

David Morse came from New Jersey and settled on lot 87, which embraced the site of the present village of Cuyler. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and drew this lot as a bounty. He was a successful farmer, and became a prominent member of the Methodist church at a later period. His two sons, David and Joseph Morse, located on the same lot. His grandson, William A. Morse, now owns and occupies the house he built.

James Lockwood came with Mr. Morse, from Pennsylvania. They came up the Tioughnioga river in a canoe, and then took an ox team to their destination.

Benjamin Brown also came in during the year 1795. He was a native of Connecticut, and selected lot 57, becoming the first settler in the Kenney Settlement neighborhood. Benjamin Brown, his grandson, well known as one of the early teachers of the town, became a very successful agriculturist, and gained the reputation of an enterprising and worthy citizen.

Isaac Brown settled on lot 99, about the year 1806, where his son, I. N. Brown, now resides.

Zebediah Gates located on lot 88, in the year 1807, where his son, Elias, now lives; he was a native of Colerain, Mass.

Joseph and Martin Keeler, brothers, settled on lot 96, about the year 1797, near the present residence of Nelson Keeler, who is a grandson of Martin.

Jesse Blanchard located on lot 66 in the year 1798. With him came his brother William; they married the sisters of Amasa, Eber, Job and Silas Whitmarsh, who also migrated the same year from Vermont and settled on lot 77. Azariel Blanchard, father of Jesse and William Blanchard, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and in all probability drew this lot as his bounty. He also participated, under General Stark, in the War of 1812, and died in 1818, aged eighty-two years.

In order to enjoy a feast of white bread, Jesse Blanchard carried a sack of wheat to Manlius, twenty miles away; that was then the nearest grist-mill. He made the journey on foot, carrying the sack of wheat and guided only by marked trees. When he or his family needed medical aid he went to Fabius, generally carrying his musket and, if benighted on the way, a firebrand with which to defend himself against the numerous wolves. Jesse Blanchard died in 1847, aged eighty-two years.

William Blanchard took part in the War of 1812, and upon his return to Cuyler

followed his trade of blacksmith. He was a skillful mechanic, the first in that business in the village and kept his smithy for many years. He learned his trade of Alexander Little, who seems to have been a pioneer blacksmith in or near Cuyler; but of him we have been unable to procure data. William Blanchard was for a time postmaster of Cuyler; was elected assessor several terms; was justice of the peace a number of times and was honored with other positions of trust, all of which he filled with credit and ability. Dr. Blanchard, the eminent physician and surgeon, who died in Milwaukie in 1871, was a son of Jesse Blanchard; he was for many years previous to his death totally blind.

Charles Vincent settled on lot 78 in 1806. James Vincent had preceded him six years. Henry Vincent, son of Charles, still lives at the advanced age of eighty-four years, retaining to a remarkable degree his physical strength and mental faculties.

Daniel Page settled on lot 79, where the Widow Hinds now lives

James Dorwood, from Rhinebeck, N. Y., came into the town in 1806 and located on lot 79. He was an ingenious and skillful mechanic, and is said to have built the first carding-machine in the State of New York. He was a native of Scotland and left his country when eighteen years of age to escape being forced into the army of King George the Third. Huldah Dorwood lived to the great age of ninety-eight years.

Jacob Hollenbeck and John Brown settled on lot 77 in the year 1806–08. Thomas Fairbanks located on lot 60 in 1803, and Ephraim Fairbanks on land afterward occupied by Joseph L. Burdick, on lot 80; the farm was owned later by H. F. Boyce. Simeon Feeney, William Wallace and the two Webster families came in a few years before the War of 1812, as did also the Fox families; but we have no farther data concerning them.

Hon. Stephen Patrick came to Cuyler with his parents in 1812, locating on lot 86. His father was Nathaniel Patrick, who married Penelope Potter, before alluded to, in 1810. Mr. Patrick is a prominent citizen; was in the employ of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company from 1833 to 1839; has held many minor positions of trust, and in the year 1866 represented Cortland county in the Legislature. He is a successful farmer and largely engaged in dairying.

Mr. Goodwin, in his *Pioneer History of Cortland County*, refers to the struggles of the pioneers in the procurement of food for their families in the following language: "The luxuries they enjoyed were the real necessaries of subsistence. They dealt only with the stern realities of life. The follies of our times were unknown to the primitive settlers. They studied nature as she really was, rather than as what they would have her to be. When success had so far crowned their laborious efforts as to enable them to spare a portion of their products, they did not deem it a hard task to place the scanty surplus on an ox-sled and taking an Indian trail, or such road as had been cut through the wilderness by wandering emigrants, and thus trudge on from day to day until they reached Utica, Whitestown, or Herkimer, where they exchanged their load for the substantials of the farm and the kitchen. This exchange did not then, as in these days of refinement, consist of satins, silks and laces for their daughters, but in a few yards of linsey-woolsey, an ax, bush-hook, grubbing-hoe, and last, though not least, a half pound of old Bohea, which was always received by the happy matron with a smile."

One of the chief obstacles always encountered by the early settlers and which

caused them often great annoyance and loss, was the depredations of wild beasts. Wolves were the most numerous and troublesome. Though great cowards in daylight, under cover of the nights they would come down from the forest-covered hillsides in this town to prey upon the farmer's sheep-fold, and only those which were carefully and substantially fenced were safe from the ravenous beasts. The deep gorges and densely wooded hillsides of Cuyler afforded favorite haunts for these cowardly beasts, where they gathered in droves, as was their wont, to go on their nightly raids. It was common for them to set up their concerted howlings at about sunset, and soon the distant hillsides and the deep valleys would resound with their blended voices, discordant in themselves, and yet possessing a sort of wild, weird melody, to which old settlers often revert with pleasant memories. But when the hour for their depredation on a sheep-fold arrived, their instinct prompted them to still their voices and they stealthily crept to the scene of their plunder; luckily for the farmer if they did not kill and carry off his last sheep. The bounty offered for killing wolves was always a considerable one in pioneer days, and the settlers sometimes eked out their slender incomes by killing the brutes. John Hooker, of Cuyler, on one occasion, after having a cow killed by them, excavated a deep pit to entrap them, suitably baited it and had the satisfaction of catching seven; he received a bounty of about forty dollars.

The first death in the town of Cuyler was that of Susannah Potter, in June, 1795; and the first birth was that of her son, which occurred about four months prior to her death.

Wanton Corey and Deborah Morse (the former eighteen years of age and the latter seventeen) were the first couple married in the town. The event occurred in May, 1806. Mr. Corey died in 1881, at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Garret Lockwood and Irene Culver were married at about the same time of Corey's marriage.

The first school was taught in Daniel Morse's log house by Jabez Keep, in 1800, and about the same time Thomas Queensbury taught a school in Hollenbeck's barn on lot 77. The first religious services were held in Mr. Slingerland's barn on the same lot.

Mills. — The early settlers in this region seriously felt the absence of saw-mills and grist-mills. With boards, which are always comparatively cheap where timber is plenty, and a few common tools, the average pioneer could construct his house, rude though it was, and out-buildings, and could provide his wife with many articles of convenience for house-keeping; but without them, and with only his axe to depend upon for the production of anything bearing even the semblance of a board, and with saw-mills at long distances, the privation was a serious one. And so with the grist-mill; it was a real necessity, and when it came within a reasonable distance, displacing the primitive enormous pestle, which was lifted up and down in the mortar, made by hollowing out the top of a hard wood stump, it was a boon the value and convenience of which are difficult to realize at this day.

The first mill in the town of Cuyler was built by John Corbet in 1803. This was a saw-mill and it undoubtedly found ample business in a territory as heavily timbered as this was with hemlock, maple, basswood, beech, cherry and white elm. Not very long after this mill was built James Dorwood erected a carding-mill and grist-mill on the same lot with Corbet; it was probably the first carding-mill in the State and was extensively patronized. It afterward passed into the hands of Tydaman Hull and

his son George, who ran it until about 1860, when it was abandoned.

In 1805 Joseph Sweetland built near the same site a grist-mill, which soon also passed into the hands of the Hulls. It was an old-fashioned water-power mill, with two runs of stone, but sufficed for the custom work of the vicinity. H. A. Blackman afterward became its owner, and finally its present owner, W. H. Seamans, bought it.

The second saw-mill in the town was built by Judge Charles Vincent, on lot 78, and was run by him until 1844. It was a prominent mill in an early day and stood about half a mile below the other one. It changed hands a number of times and is now in ruins.

The third mill was a grist-mill and saw-mill together; both were built by Ephraim Griswold at the falls of Tripoli in a very early day. The mill is now owned by A. P. Spicer & Son, and has a good circular saw and two runs of stone; it is a good country mill.

In addition to these mills which we have mentioned, there were other early ones, but they were generally small affairs, with inadequate water power, and have been long since abandoned in favor of portable steam saw-mills, now in common use. One of these is now on the farm of M. J. Keeler, but will soon be removed to the village of Cuyler; it is owned by the Brown Brothers, who are great-grandsons of Benjamin Brown, one of the first settlers before mentioned.

The dairying business has received more attention in this town in late years than formerly and more than any other branch of agriculture. In this respect the town of Cuyler is not surpassed by any other part of the county; perhaps no other similar portion of the State. The rich lowlands and the excellent pasturage on the hillsides cannot be excelled and the dairy products are proportionately fine in quality and large in quantity.

Silas Blanchard was the first to erect a cheese factory in this town. It was built about the year 1864, in the village; a hundred feet of the building is still in use. The business is now owned by M. S. Allen and managed by J. B. Howard. The patronage of this factory has been very large at times, consuming the milk of a thousand cows; at other seasons it has been much more limited.

The second butter and cheese factory was built on or near the line between Cuyler and De Ruyter, Madison county, about the year 1875, by Lewis Sears. Since his proprietorship, Edwin Saunders, A. Buckingham and, at the present time, Mr. McAdams have owned it. The factory receives considerable patronage from both towns, but it is not so large in capacity as others in the town.

The factory at Kenney Settlement is of still later origin. It was built and is now managed by a company and commands a good patronage.

The Cuyler Hill Cheese Factory Association, organized about ten years ago, and the Cold Spring cheese factory, located in the south part of the town, are each doing a moderate business. There are also several dairies in the town, the products of which rank high in the markets.

When the Rebellion broke out it found this town ready with its sister towns of the county to send her young men to the battle-field in aid of the government and willing to pay them well for the hardship and dangers they were to undergo. Special town meetings were held in about the same order and for similar purposes as those already described in the history of Homer, and bounties were paid conforming with those of the other towns. Following is a list of all the enlistments from the town of

those who received bounties, with other details: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid, $300. Total bounties, $9,000. — Henry Couch, Hiram Hills, Benjamin Austin, Alpha V. Culver, John Scott, Harlow I. Phillips, William B. Mudge, William B. Weggant, Michael Donnelly, Cornelius Steel, Oscar H. Smith, Edmund O. Rice, John A. Stewart, George Deitz, Charles Lollis, Theodore Knapp, Isaac Brockett, Loyd D. Culver, James Wilson, George Hopper, Chas. Hall, Stephen Cornell, Stephen H. Vosburgh, Albert C. King, George Ridder, George Ufford, David P. Rood, Charles Van Why, Azariah C. Torrey, Arvin N. Albro.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Amount of bounty, $700; except $600 to nine; $300 to two; $500 to one; and $650 to one. Total bounties, $18,350 Total brokerage, $700. — William H. Shaw, James A. Shaw, Wm. D. Hakes, Thomas Edwards, Henry Kreiga, David H. Lyon, Charles Mitchell, John Beavers, Charles Nelson, Sebastian Staff, Christ. Bender, John Sherman, Demus Walsh, Daniel Foster, Freman Day, Peter Sanger, John R. Williams, Curry Magnus, John Quinn, Thomas Williams, Jacob Jacoba, Stephen R. Nye, John R. Wells, Wesley Porter, George H. Green, Daniel Hennessy, Cyrus A. Smith, S. E. Corwich, George Bromley.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty paid, $400; except $600 to two. Total bounty, $3,600. Total brokerage, $120. — Geo. E. Willey, Samuel Johnson, Dewitt C. Burch, Nelson Moore, N. Childs, Wm. Hatless, Charles R. Lord, Ezra Stone.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls of October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $9,000. Paid for filling quota, call of July 18th, 1864, $19,050. Paid for filling quota, call of December 19th, 1864, $3,720. Grand total, $31,770.

The town of Cuyler was without railroad communication until about the year 1870, when the Midland road ran its branch (the Auburn branch, so called) directly through the town, giving it direct connection with Cortland village on the south and Norwich on the east. This road, although not yet managed so satisfactorily as it undoubtedly will be at no distant day, has been of great advantage to the town.

The resolution to petition the Legislature for an act to erect the town of Cuyler was passed by the Board of Supervisors of the county on the 18th of November, 1858, and at the first town meeting the following officers were elected: —

Supervisor — Lewis Sears.

Town clerk. — Alexander Dunce.

Justices of the peace — James Burdick, Wait Besley, Daniel Fairbank.

Assessors — John A. Keeney, William S. Merchant.

Commissioners of highways — Ezra Benjamin, Henry Smith, Seabury B. Henry.

Overseers of the poor — Francis B. Aldrich, Robert Griswold.

Inspectors of election — Warren A. Jones, Horace Benjamin, Franklin Blanchard.

Collector — James Allen.

Constables — James Allen, Wm. F. Wall, Ransom Fairbank, James Breed, Elisha House.

Following is a list of the names of the supervisors and town clerks, the supervisor's name being given first in each instance: —

For the years 1859–60, Lewis Sears, Alexander Dunce; 1861 to 1864, inclusive, Silas Blanchard, A. W. Dunbar; 1865, Silas Blanchard, Gilbert S. Poole; 1866, Hiram Whitmarsh, Geo. F. Fairbank; 1867 to 1872, inclusive, Alexander Dunce, Wm. Blanchard; 1873, Alexander Dunce, Geo. F. Fairbank; 1874 to 1876, inclusive, Alexander Dunce, Clarence N. Knapp; 1877–78, Henry D. Waters, Clarence N.

Knapp; 1879–80, John W. Patrick, Clarence N. Knapp; 1881, Henry D. Waters, Clarence N. Knapp; 1882, Harlan P. Andrews, Clarence N. Knapp; 1883, Wm. Baldwin, James B. Hills; 1884, Harlan P. Andrews, James B. Hills.

The officers of the town of Cuyler, elected at the last annual election, are as follows:—

Supervisor — Harlan P. Andrews.

Town clerk — James B. Hills.

Justices of the peace — Seabury F. Brown, B. F. Lee, Irving Burdick, Nelson Keeler, Joel J. Albro.

Assessor — David C. Smith.

Commissioner of highways — Wm. W. Thompson.

Overseer of the poor — Wanton Corey.

Collector — Aaron W. Dunbar, jr.

Constables — Aaron W. Dunbar, jr., Jacob Garner, George Bogardus, Nelson Albro, Stephen Burtis.

Inspectors of election — Lewis Burtis, George F. Fairbank.

Excise Commissioner — Geo. H. Brown.

Of those who have been prominently identified with the management of the public affairs of the town of Cuyler, no one is more honorably conspicuous than Alexander Dunce. He was born in Schenectady, N. Y., in 1809, of Scotch parentage; his parents being educated people, they carefully trained their son in the same direction. He became at an early age a successful teacher in common schools, and he has ever since identified himself with educational interests. He removed to the town of Cuyler in 1838 where he continued teaching winters, and farming in summer seasons. His capacity and education for official duty was soon recognized by his townsmen, since which time he has been honored with almost constant public work, which engrosses a large share of his time and attention. He was superintendent of common schools in the old town of Truxton for ten years; town clerk of Cuyler, after it was set off from Truxton, two terms; justice of the peace two terms; supervisor nine terms; railroad commissioner six years and has been notary public during the past fifteen years. Mr. Dunce was originally a Whig in politics and is now a thorough-going Republican, strong in his convictions of right and unflinching in his efforts to carry out his convictions. Although now seventy-six years of age, he still attends to his public duties with sound judgment and all the vigor and care of his younger days, and lives in the enjoyment of the respect and confidence of the entire community.

CUYLER VILLAGE.

The village of Cuyler is situated a little north of the center of the town, on the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira railroad, and contains a Methodist church, several mechanics' shops, three stores, and a population of about one hundred and twenty.

The first trading done in the village proper was probably by C. J. Vincent, who began in 1832, although it has been stated that a man named Hull had a small store there as early as 1806. The successors of Mr. Vincent were Phillip and Joseph Morse in 1833; Alanson Lake in 1838; Lewis & Sprague in 1842; Sprague Brothers in 1845 and Abial Davidson in 1859.

In another building Halsey Patrick began trading in 1858, and was succeeded by Austin Waters in 1860; Marshall Blanchard in 1861. In still another building Frank Wise began business in 1864 and was followed by Adelbert Fuller in 1866, who still continues. H. G. Warner began business in 1881, and C. M. Knapp, the present hardware merchant, in 1871.

Joseph Sweetland kept the first inn in Cuyler in 1806, his sign being hung upon a tree. Oliver Mix taught the first school in Mix's bar-room, in 1807. Mr. Alexan-

der Dunce, who is excellent authority and to whom we are much indebted for information of this town, thinks that a Mr. McWhorter kept a tavern here in 1806. He was followed in 1820 by A. Petrie; in 1822 by David Morse; 1824 to 1836 by Joseph Brush; Wm. Morse from 1830 to 1834; Geo. W. Samson from 1834 to 1838; Peter Westerman from 1838 to 1841; William Blanchard from 1841 to 1848; A. Parker from 1848 to 1860; D. Raymond from 1861 to 1865; M. D. Eaton 1870 to 1873; R. Ashley from 1873 to 1875; D. Pence, the last in the place, from 1875 to 1877, when the hotel was burned.

Alexander Little was the first blacksmith to locate in Cuyler, beginning in 1816. He was followed by Wm. Blanchard in 1820. Luther Holmes, the present blacksmith, began business here in 1871.

James Pomeroy, a cabinet maker, began work in that line in 1816; he died in 1870. Jefferson Vincent began in 1882.

The first physician to locate in the village of Cuyler was Dr. Christopher L. Main, who became a member of the Cortland County Medical Society in 1836, about which time he settled in Cuyler; he remained only to the year 1840 and was succeeded by Dr. W. B. Sturtevant, who practiced here a few years and removed to De Ruyter, where he soon afterward died. He became a member of the County Medical Society in 1846. Dr. Frank C. Clark settled here in 1878 and is still in practice.

The first lawyer in Cuyler was Joseph Morse, youngest son of David Morse, who settled on lot 87. He began pettifogging in justice's court at an early day, and soon after the constitutional changes of 1846, which permitted candidates to be licensed to practice in courts of record, without regard to the time spent in study, he was admitted an attorney at law in the courts of the State. He died in 1872 or 1873.

The second lawyer was M. M. Waters, a native of the town. Mr. Waters obtained a good education, and was a teacher of some prominence, after which he studied the law, and was admitted about 1854. He practiced in the county until 1882, when he removed to Syracuse, where he is now the senior member of the well known firm of Waters, Mc Lennan & Dillaye. He is an able pleader and a wise counselor.

Henry D. Waters, the only lawyer at present in Cuyler, is a brother of M. M. Waters, with whom he studied his profession in Cortland village. At the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted in Company E of the 157th Regiment, and was a participant in the battles of Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Antietam and Gettysburg. In the latter engagement he lost two fingers by the bursting of a shell, on which account he was transferred to the Veteran Reserves. Mr. Waters was twice promoted, to the offices of lieutenant and captain. He finished his law studies, and was admitted to the bar after his return from the war. Since that time he has been justice of the peace fifteen years, supervisor four years and clerk of the board two years.

Churches. — The first sermon preached in the town of Cuyler was by Benoni Harris, in 1808. The services were held in Singleton's barn. After that event religious services were kept up with something like regularity by supplies or traveling ministers, who preached in private houses, or school-houses, until the year 1839, when the Methodist church building of Cuyler was erected. This building was raised by Alexander Dunce, and the society has since prospered. The Rev. James Staunton is the pastor at present in charge of the church. Isaac N. Brown, J. W. Patrick, I. D. Brown, Adam Petrie and Alexander Dunce are the trustees. The class-leaders are Isaac N.

Brown and George Brown. The membership is about eighty.

About the year of the organization of the Methodist Church in the village, and not later than 1840, the members of the Baptist society erected a frame church building in the Kenney Settlement. The members of this were greatly scattered, and in a few years the church was disbanded, the members going to Fabius and Truxton to attend worship. The Rev. Mr. Purinton ministered to this people most of the time while they continued to meet for worship. He was a man of sterling Christian character and was greatly loved by his congregation. John A. Kenney, Orange Cadwell, Abner Brown, and others, were among the earnest supporters of the church. The building was purchased by the Methodists about the year 1866, and is connected in a circuit with the church at Fabius. The Rev. Mr. Shurtliff, now of Fabius, preaches in the church. Edmund Fox, John B. Webster, Nelson Haskins, Silas Haskins, Oren and Gurdon Hulbert, H. P. Andrews, and others are prominently connected with the society. The original trustees were P. H. Saunders, Leonard Woodruff, Owen Woodruff and J. B. Webster. The present trustees are P. H. Saunders, Hiram Whitman, Isaac Babcock, Albert Haskins, Elisha King, Edwin Saunders and H. P. Andrews.

The Union Church society of South Cuyler, consisting of members from various denominations, erected a building at that place just prior to the late war. The society thus formed is not a very strong one, but its members are earnest in their desire to build up a church and regularly attend all the services. The Rev. Mr. Ketchum was instrumental in securing the subscription with which the frame of the church was erected.

The Seventh-day Baptist Church was organized about the year 1850 and a building erected on the Burdick hill. The Revs. Fisher, Alexander Campbell, Joshua Clarke and Thomas Fisher have preached to this society at different periods. Phineas and James Burdick, Arza Muncey, E. B. Irish, A. L. Cardner and others have done much for the prosperity of the church.

CHAPTER XXVI.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF PREBLE.

THE town of Preble was named in honor of Commodore Preble, and was formed from the military township of Tully upon the organization of Cortland county, April 8th, 1808. It embraced the south half of that township and also the present town of Scott. The boundaries are as follows: On the north by Onondaga county; on the east by Truxton; on the south by Homer and Scott; on the west by Scott.

The surface is largely broken and hilly, consisting of the valley of the west branch of the Tioughnioga river, which is nearly two miles wide, with high ridges rising on the east and west. Mount Topping is the most elevated portion of the town, being seventeen hundred feet above tide. North of Mount Topping a valley extends northward and opens into the valley of Otisco lake. The hills of Preble are steep and many of the summits terminate in sharp peaks.

The soil is a fine quality of gravelly loam. Several small lakes are situated in the town and are known as the Little York lakes. The following concerning Mount Topping

is quoted from *Goodwin's History of the County:* "From the highest elevation of Mount Topping portions of Onondaga, Cayuga and Tompkins may be seen, with their varying scenery, blending the beauties of rich, productive fields with the more rugged features of nature. Standing on that lofty point the observer may have a fine view of Homer, Preble and Tully flats, lands that will compare favorably with any in the State; and there, too, he may view with admiration and wonder the works of the Deity, as exhibited in the numerous ridges and long sloping valleys, the rounded knolls and picturesque glades, all richly diversified and producing in abundance the various crops common to the country. Indeed, there are many magnificent views to be taken from this rugged point, as it looms up in its ancient grandeur. We were most agreeably surprised with our visit to this olden spot of Indian warfare, where the Indian man contested the right of inheritance with the wild beasts of the mountain glen or forest glade."

Preble Corners, situated on the Syracuse, Binghamton and New York Railroad, contains two churches, a hotel, two general stores, one hardware store and one drug store, and one cooper shop; a harness shop, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop and other shops of various kinds, with about four hundred inhabitants. Preble Center and Baltimore are hamlets, the latter located near the center of the town, and was formerly a thriving little village, containing hotel, post-office, stores and a tannery.

The first settlement was made in the town of Preble in 1796, by James Cravath and John Gill. James Cravath bought lot 68 and paid $1 per acre for the land. He afterwards sold to his brothers, Robert and Samuel, three hundred acres of this land and the remainder to Garret Van Hoesen in 1805, for which last named part he received $12.50 per acre. After this transaction James Cravath moved to the Holland Purchase, in Genesee county, N. Y. His only daughter, Mrs. Blodgett, also moved to that county. Robert and Samuel Cravath came to the town in 1797, and lived the remainder of their lives in the county and gained the reputation of being honorable, upright citizens and valuable members of the community. They were both earnest supporters of the early church in Preble. Samuel moved to Homer just prior to his death. James Cravath was a native of Connecticut, but migrated from Pompey Hill. Samuel and Robert came from Norfolk, Conn.

John Gill settled on a part of lots 76 and 77. He settled first in Scott and came to Preble soon after. It was at his house the first meeting was held in the town for the election of the town officers.

Harry Hill and Elijah Mason came in during the year 1798. The former was from Montgomery county, N. Y., and located on lot 87, which he drew for military services in the Revolutionary War. Elijah Mason settled on lot 78. Seth Trowbridge, from Montgomery county, located in the early part of 1779 on lot 59, and during the next year Samuel Trowbridge, Winnie Hyatt and Samuel Orvis settled on the same lot. Trowbridge served in the War of the Revolution and drew the lot. The Widow Trowbridge, of Homer, mother of Mrs. Oliver Glover, of Homer, was a daughter of Mr. Hyatt. Mr. Orvis was from Norfolk, Conn. He subsequently removed to Prattsburg, Steuben county, where he died in 1851 at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Samuel Trowbridge was the first inn-keeper in the town of Preble.

In 1801 Augustus Thorp located on lot 78. In 1802 John Osgood, Silas Topping, Samuel C. Buckelow and Jabez Phelps came in and settled in various locations.

Jabez Phelps was originally from Hebron, Connecticut, but came to Preble from Cazenovia. He located on lot 88, and for the first few years he practiced medicine and was honored with the title of Doctor; but he subsequently turned his attention to politics and was at different times elected to important positions, creditably filling the office of associate judge, surrogate and Member of the Assembly. He died Dec. 20th, 1850, aged seventy-four years. His widow lived upwards of four score years. They had seven children, as follows: The daughter Sophronia became the wife of Charles Clark, of Groton; Laura Jane the wife of Dr. Burdick; Augusta the wife of Harry Hobart, of Truxton; Lydia, the wife of Dr. Alfred Hall, of Navarino, Onondaga county; Amanda the wife of Ezekiel Chew, of Richland, Ohio; Abram J., of Newark, in the same State; Calvin B., of Chrysoline, Ohio.

Osgood settled on lot 77; Buckelow on lot 67, and Topping on 96.

In 1802 Lyttle Ferguson from Montgomery county located on lot 65.

In 1803 Amos Skeel and Jason Comstock came in from Schenectady county, and selected locations. The former settled on lot 59. He was an industrious and valuable citizen. He died in 1842, at the age of seventy-five years. His widow survived him eleven years and died at the advanced age of eighty-eight. He was the father of Hon. Ira Skeel, and William W. Mr. Comstock located on lot 58. His daughter Saloma is the wife D. G. Duncan. In 1804 John Collyer, Dr. Robert D. Taggart and Edward Cummings selected locations. Collyer, father of Casper Collyer, came from Greene county and settled on lot 58. Taggart came from Colerain and located on lot 59. He was an exceedingly active and prominent man. Cummings came in from Peterborough, N. H., and settled on lot 59. He purchased 100 acres, and reared a respectable family of thirteen children.

James Crofoot was one of the prominent early settlers and probably emigrated from Connecticut about the year 1806, arriving in Preble during the latter part of that year. He settled on lot 88 and was one of the very first to locate in Baltimore. Joseph Crofoot was postmaster of that hamlet for a number of years. His son, David Crofoot, was a tanner and currier and became wealthy. He was a skillful mechanic and carried on that business at Baltimore for forty years. The old stone building, still standing in that place and occupied for that especial purpose during the time Mr. Crofoot was engaged in that pursuit, was afterward used for various purposes, such as blacksmith shop, shoe shop, etc., but has been virtually abandoned for many years. This building was erected about the year 1810, and was the first tannery in the town. David Crofoot must have turned his attention in part to politics; the records of the town show him to have been supervisor in 1823, '24, '25, '30, '32, '33, '34, '39, '40, '43, '44, '45, '46, '52, and '53 — fifteen years in all, but extending over a period of thirty years of time.

The first grist-mill in the town of Preble was erected in the year 1806, by Samuel C. Woolston, a native of Montgomery county. In 1827 the building was taken down and the main part of the present mill erected on the original site. The mill was run until about the year 1850, and then passed into the hands of Uriah Philley. In 1853 W. E. Tallman purchased the mill property, comprising 200 acres of valuable land. He was an enterprising citizen of Tully, who, after coming here, thoroughly renovated and improved the mill, adding new bolts and another run of stone. He also extended shafting to his barn, a distance of 360 feet, where he used the power for

thrashing, separating grain, elevating straw, shelling corn and sawing wood, thus saving him by using the surplus power, half the usual number of hands necessary to do the same amount of work. Mr. Tallman also purchased a water power below his mill about thirty-eight rods distant, and by the use of shafting 627 feet in length, was enabled to operate another extra run of stone. He thus used a portion of the water a second time. This valuable mill privilege is now owned by Elijah Stanton. A saw-mill is also connected with it.

By the year 1806 some improvements had been made in the town. The few farmers had made considerable progress in felling the forest, and Elijah Mason and Samuel Trowbridge had erected the first frame houses. These were soon followed by that of John Collyer, who built between the Corners and the river, on the site now occupied by Henry Haviland. In this building Mr. Collyer kept hotel in an early day and as late as 1813, in which year Moses B. Howard moved into the town.

Captain Church also had a tavern near Woolston's mill at an early day; but the date of his proprietorship is not now available.

In 1804 John Osgood opened a store at Preble Corners and in 1807 Wm. Vandenberg began keeping a tavern there. Ashabel Frost opened a store on lot 78 about 1812 and Noah Parsons one on lot 68 in 1818.

David Crofoot began his tannery business about the year 1810, in Baltimore, and Isaac Crofoot, his cousin, some years later, opened a tavern there; this passed through different hands and was finally kept by Geo. Haines, who closed it as a public house about 1854. A post-office was located here in 1812 which was continued until 1832.

Preble Center was a thriving little hamlet at an early day, where business was done and some manufacturing in a small way; but the place long since became scarcely worthy of note.

Jabez Phelps and Joseph Crofoot were early identified with the interests of Baltimore; but when the post-office was removed from there to the Corners in 1832, the place lost its business activity, until now it is merely a neighborhood of contiguous dwellings.

The first annual town meeting of the town of Preble was convened at the house of John Gill on the 3d of May, 1808, when the following officers were elected: —

Supervisor — Amos Skeel.

Town clerk — Albert Collyer.

Assessors — Garret Van Hoesen, Peleg Babcock and John Gill.

Commissioners of highways — William Gillett, Samuel Trowbridge and Samuel Babcock.

Overseers of the poor — Elijah Mason, Wm. Vandenberg.

Constables — Samuel Taggart and Wm. Tefft.

Commissioners of roads — Elijah Mason and Paul Babcock.

Collector — Henry Vandenberg.

Sealer of weights and measures — Joseph Bingham.

Pound masters and fence viewers — Robert Cravath, Wm. Vandenberg, Henry Burdick.

Overseers of the highways — John Huntington, Nathaniel Gay, Leonard L. Conine, Richard Whitbeck, Timothy Brown, Ebenezer Harrington, Moulton Craw, Gad Merrill, Abraham Rulofsen, John Gillett, John Raymond, Seth Trowbridge, Levi Johnson, Bela Harsmar.

The first enactment passed by this board of officers was that "hogs shall be free commoners, with yokes and rings."

The following resolution was also adopted at that meeting: "That any inhabitant of

this town, who shall kill any wolves or panthers, shall be entitled to a bounty from the town of ten dollars, provided said wolf or panther shall be killed within the bounds of the town."

It was decided that the next town meeting shall be held at the house of John Gill.

In 1863–64 Moses and William Palmer erected the Preble cheese factory, south of Baltimore, and carried on the manufacture of butter and cheese very extensively. Their buildings were very large, two stories in height, with capacious engine room; the vats were heated by steam and the milk of hundreds of cows used. The dairy business of the town of Preble, like other portions of Cortland county, has received a large share of the attention of farmers in late years, increased interest being felt in it since about 1860. The rich Preble flats are scarcely surpassed for fertility and beauty by any section of the county, and the farms are admirable examples of the best methods of agriculture. The hopes of the inhabitants of the town that they would soon have railroad communication with Syracuse and with other portions of this county, were excited as early as 1826, when the charter was granted by the Legislature for a road from Syracuse to Binghamton; but they were destined to disappointment until the year 1854, which witnessed the completion of the Syracuse and Binghamton railroad running directly through the Preble valley. This was an era of rejoicing and the road, although its advent may have been the reverse of beneficial to the growth of the village, has been of incalculable benefit to the town at large.

Preble Center was a point of deep religious interest at a very early day. Here the Presbyterians first assembled as early as 1804, at which time there was a membership in this creed of eleven persons. It became a thriving organization. At a later date Jedediah Barber, of Homer, who married a Miss Tuttle living near the Center, presented the society with a lot for the erection of a church building; but there was a provision attached to the gift, that if the church was ever removed the lot should revert to him. The church was removed to Preble Corners in 1840, chiefly through the instrumentality of Elam Dunbar, and Mr Barber took the lot into his possession.

The names of the first town officials have already been given. The first marriage was that of Amos Bull to Sally Mason, in 1799. The first birth was that of Nancy Gill, October 25th, 1796. The first death was that of John Patterson, in 1798. The first permanent merchant was Noah Parsons, at Preble Center in 1818. The first grist-mill that of Samuel Woolston, erected in 1806; and the oldest living native resident of the town is Matthias Van Hoesen, who is now seventy-nine years old. Mr. Van Hoesen has held every office in the gift of his town and has been its supervisor for nearly a quarter of a century. He was prominent in the agitation which resulted in erecting the new county clerk's office, and he was a leader in the work of arranging and erecting the present county poor-house buildings, which are among the finest in the State.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of the town of Preble, the supervisor's name in each instance being given first and the clerk's immediately after:—

1808–09, Amos Skeel, Robert Taggart. 1810, Amos Skeel, Joseph Bingham. 1811 to 1815, inclusive, Amos Skeel, Garret Van Hoesen. 1816 to 1832, inclusive, Jabez B. Phelps, Garret Van Hoesen. 1823, David Crofoot, Jabez B. Phelps. 1824, David Crofoot, Martin Lyon. 1825, David Crofoot, Martin Phelps. 1826 to 1829, inclusive, Martin Phelps, Erastus Downs. 1830, David Crofoot, Christian Etz. 1831, Martin Lyon, Christian Etz. 1832 to 1834, in-

clusive, David Crofoot, Christian Etz 1835 to 1837, inclusive, Elihu Mix, Francis Gilbert. 1838, Michael Frank, Jabez B. Phelps 1839, David Crofoot, Michael Frank. 1840, David Crofoot, Edmund Stevens. 1841, Christian Etz, John H. Kiersted. 1842, Abraham Woodward, James Crofoot. 1843, David Crofoot, Seth Kelsey. 1844 to 1846, inclusive, David Crofoot, Andrew Spence. 1847, G. A. Woolston, Jabez B. Phelps. 1848, Abel Washbrouck, Jabez B. Phelps. 1849, David Hardy, Jabez B. Phelps. 1850–51, ———. 1852, David Crofoot, Fredus Howard. 1853, David Crofoot, Leonard Hardy. 1854, Lyman G. Frost, Matthias M. Out. 1855, Seth Aldrich, Walter Jones. 1856, James Baldwin, Matthias Out. 1857, Edmund Stevens, Fredus Howard. 1858, James Baldwin, John D. F. Woolston. 1859, W. E. Tallman, Daniel Burdick. 1860, W. E. Tallman, John J. Out. 1861, Matthias Van Hoesen, John J. Out. 1862, M. Van Hoesen, Robert Conine. 1863, M. Van Hoesen, John L. Ferguson. 1864, M. Van Hoesen, Lyman Gay. 1865, Silas Baldwin, Horatio M. Van Buskirk. 1866, M. Van Hoesen, Caleb D. Kinner. 1867, M. Van Hoesen, J. S. Cornue. 1868, M. Van Hoesen, L. M. Conine. 1869, James Baldwin, J. H. Burdick. 1870-71–72, M. Van Hoesen, Alonzo C. Spore. 1873, M. Van Hoesen, A. C. Carr. 1874, John D. F. Woolston, A. C. Carr. 1875, F. T. Van Hoesen, A. C. Carr. 1876, Anderson Francisco, A. C. Carr. 1877–78, A. C. Carr, Myron J. Muncy. 1879, John D. F. Woolston, A. C. Carr. 1880–1881, M. Van Hoesen, Frank P. Conine. 1882, David O. Crofoot, Frank P. Conine. 1883, Wm. W. Wright, F. P. Conine.

The officers for the year 1883 are as follows: —

Supervisor — Wm. W. Wright.

Town clerk — Frank P. Conine.

Justices of the peace — John S. Cornue, J. D. F. Woolston, Seth Hobart, H. J. B. Tully.

Commissioner of highways — Henry F. Harter.

Assessors — John L. Haviland, A. H. Van Buskirk and Roscoe Butler.

Collector — Christopher Long.

Inspectors of election — A. M. Loomis, David H. Foltz and J. H. Cummings.

Constables — Christopher Long, Richmond Klock, A. V. H. Cummings and Ryan Green.

Overseer of the poor — Eben Daley.

Game constable — H. M. Van Hoesen.

Excise board — A. G. Aldrich, Robert Conine and Miles Tully.

The town of Preble practically exhibited its patriotism during the late war, by furnishing its quota of men called for by the government, notwithstanding the town had more children than money, as compared with many other towns in the county. Following is a list of all the enlistments from the town of men who were paid bounties, with the amount of money thus expended: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty, $300. Total, $6,600. — Rice Graham, Benajah A. Wilmot, Oliver Ingram, Joseph R. Ragan, James Phillips, John E. Ladd, Robert Walker, Chester Huntington, John M. Corry, Jacob King, George W. Gates, Edward Hunter, Charles P. Johnson, John A. Lee, Andrew Craft, James W. Wood, John Strong, John R. Cain, John Camel, John Hodges, James Smith, John Baker.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty, $1,000; except $700 to two, and $600 to two. Total, $21,600. Brokerage, $575. — William Howard, Charles Card, Franklin D. Carpenter, Edward L. Smith, Henry K. Watrous, Albert Arnold, Andrew V. Austin, George W. Briggs, William R. Brown, Marcus B. Durkee, De Witt H. Eldrige,

Lucian Haskins, John B. Knapp, Henry G. Wakefield, James Wakefield, William W. Wakefield, Ellis Willson, Horace C. Wood, John Martin, James Wright, John Cain, Gabrael Allen, Franklin C. Crowell.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty, $600. Total, $7,800. Brokerage, $105. — John Osborn, Daniel O'Brien, James Hayden, Patrick Kelly, Henry Jackson, George Dougherty, James Cole, James Capot, Alfred Marion, James Smith, Hiram Lango, John Ryan, Anton Tichter.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $6,600; paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $22,175; paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $7,905. Grand total, $36,680.

PREBLE CORNERS.

The village of Preble Corners received its first inhabitant in the year 1802, in the person of John Osgood, before alluded to, who moved in at that time and erected the first log house in the place during that year, and two years later opened the first store. The dwelling house stood on the ground now owned and occupied by John Gay.

When Garret Van Hoesen moved to the town in 1806 there were two frame houses in the town — that of Elijah Mason and another occupied by Samuel Trowbridge, both of whom settled on lot 78. The first frame house built at the Corners was erected by William Vandenberg, and is the house in which John Gay now resides. Vandenberg kept a tavern in this building for a time; but having failed to obtain a good title to his land, and after becoming reduced from wealthy circumstances to poverty, he removed away. Elisha Williams succeeded to his estate. The land was afterward claimed by John Toole, whose right to the title was undisputed; but fortune did not favor the possessor, as there happened to be two of that name, both soldiers in the war of the Revolution, one of whom was then deceased, and both entitled to the military bounty. After considerable litigation the State allowed Mr. Williams to keep the farm.

Matthias Van Hoesen came to the village in 1830 and from the spring of that year until the year 1831 kept the hotel where it is now located. John Fowler was then in a tavern on the south side of the road. The next proprietor of the present hotel was Jabez B. Phelps, who came about the year 1832; the building was at that time considerably smaller than at present. The post-office at Baltimore had been removed to the Corners during this year and business at that time began to center at this point. Andrew Spence next supplied the traveling public with tavern fare, and under his proprietorship the house was burned on September 14th, 1840. He immediately rebuilt it in its present size and accommodations. Following Spence in the proprietorship of the house came Anson Kenyon, Lewis Wilcox, John Bouton, George Heffron, Robert Conine, who kept it in 1852, and repaired the building; Daniel Van Auken, who took it in 1865 and kept it until 1878; G. S. Van Hoesen, Albert Van Hoesen and the present proprietor, John Klock, who came in 1880.

Previous to the establishment of the post-office in the town of Preble, about the year 1812, the then central point of the township of Tully, the settlers received their letters, papers, etc., from Pompey Hill. This post-office was located at the hamlet of Baltimore, and was kept by Jabez Phelps, who retained the office a number of years. The *Cortland Journal*, under date of October 1st, 1824, advertises letters at the post-office in Preble for William Ridgway, Alexander Elliot, Wm. W. Skeel, Wm. Parker, John I. Hamilton, Chauncey Cummings;

and Joseph Crofoot was then postmaster. In 1827 he advertised the following list of letters remaining in that office: Abijah Durkee, Barber & Tickner, Ebenezer Harris, Moses H. Green, Garrett Van Hoesen, Samuel Orvis, Elias Van Camp, John A. Johnson and Henry Stebbins.

Phineas Burdick was postmaster at the time of the removal to Preble Corners in 1832, and was the first postmaster at that village. Matthias Van Hoesen kept it for a time in the hotel, beginning in the spring of 1831; then Jabez Phelps, after whom came Andrew Spence, who distributed mail at the hotel, both before and after it was burned, in 1840. Judge Phelps took the office again about the year 1848 and kept it until the beginning of Lincoln's administration, in 1861. Chester Markham succeeded, remaining in the office until 1875. John J. Out then took the office and is the present incumbent; the office is kept in his harness shop.

The first store at Preble Corners was established by John Osgood, in 1804. He seems to have traded in the place but a short time. Other transient merchants followed in a small way, until the year 1830, when Frank Gilbert established a permanent place of mercantile trade; he was followed by several successors; after Frank Gilbert came Wales & Kirsted in 1830; Frost & Wood, Frost & Gregg, Geo. Elmore, Kinner & Norton, Lewis Carlisle, J. W. Roe, Hobart & Cummings and the present enterprising merchants, Conine & Cummings.

The new and complete store now under the successful management of E. M. Van Hoesen was established by Markham & Ferguson in 1861; they were succeeded by E. M. & F. T. Van Hoesen, who were followed by the present proprietor.

The drug business here was begun during Fillmore's adminstration by William L. Barrett; he was succeeded by A. C. Carr, following whom came the present proprietor, J. W. Roe. He carries a stock sufficient for the needs of the place

Zelotus Hannum supplied the citizens with furniture, and had the only stock in that line in the town.

James Crofoot was the first shoemaker in the town. He located on lot 88. The present shoemaker of the village is Robert Conine.

The harness and saddlery business was begun probably as early as 1835, by Isaac Bishop. James Plumb worked at this trade a short time, and J. J. Out, a skillful mechanic, has done business in this line since 1847.

The first manufacturing of wagons in the town was carried on by Daniel Lamphire, who located on lot 78, where he remained for twenty-five years. He was from the town of Coxsackie, N. Y.,; he did custom work wholly, and his shop finally went down. In 1877 Richard Brayton and Fred. Bennett located in a shop on lot 77, but remained only a year or two. A. H. Vandenberg has a wagon and sleigh repair shop which he has occupied about fifteen years, and for many years previous at Baltimore. His father was Lambert Vandenberg, who was an early resident at the Corners.

The first blacksmith shop in the town of Preble was established by Moses Kent on lot 57. Martin Phelps next located on lot 87, in 1809. James Sager, Isaac Van Buskirk, Hosea Bennett and Benjamin Baker were blacksmiths in an early day. Albert W. Morgan is now the leading blacksmith in the place. Jerome Fulton and Harrison Kingsley are also blacksmiths doing good business.

The first physician in the town of Preble was Robert D. Taggart, who located on lot 59 in the north part of the town. He came

about the year 1810 and removed to Byron, Genesee county, about the year 1825. Dr. Norris located on lot 77, in 1812. He built one of the earlier frame houses in the village. Judge Phelps was, during the first few years of his stay in Baltimore, a practicing physician; but he subsequently turned his attention to politics, as before stated. Dr. Geo. W. Bradford located at Preble in 1820. He was a native of Otsego county, and after receiving an academic education, studied medicine with Dr. Thos. Fuller, of Cooperstown, N. Y.; he was licensed in 1820, by the Otsego Medical Association, and during the same year came to Preble. He remained here but a short time, however, and then removed to Homer. Further mention of Dr. Bradford's eminent career will be found in the history of the County Medical Society.

Dr. Phineas H. Burdick settled in the town in 1834, locating at Preble Corners. He received an academic education and began the study of medicine in 1823, with Dr. Hubbard Smith, of De Ruyter, and in the office of Dr. Jehiel Stearns, of Pompey. He attended lectures at Castleton, Vermont, in 1826, and was licensed by the Medical Society of Onondaga county in 1828, beginning practice in Scott the same year. In 1834 he removed to Preble, where he practiced successfully many years until his death. He was given the degree of M. D. by the State Medical Society and became a permanent member of that body in 1853. Dr. Burdick was highly esteemed, both as a physician and a man. Dr. D. W. Burdick, of Homer, is his son.

The present physicians of Preble are Dr. Herman D. Hunt, who came to the place in 1880, and H. Johnson, who located here in 1881. The former is allopathic and the latter homeopathic.

Matthias Van Hoesen was the first practicing lawyer in the town. He was never admitted to the bar, but became one of the most successful lawyers in the county in justice's court, in minor cases. He is still living in Preble at the age of seventy-eight years, possesses a clear brain, excellent judgment, and powers of concentration of thought that are unusual. John F. Van Hoesen, his son, born May 11th, 1833 began the practice of the law in Preble in 1856, but in 1859 removed to Cortlandville, where he died in 1860. He studied with Judge Kingsley and Major Hiram Crandall, and was admitted to practice in May, 1856, coming directly to Preble Corners. In the month of October following he removed to Minnesota, landing at Hastings a flourishing city on the Mississippi, where he practiced his profession to some extent and also engaged in land speculation, by which he realized a considerable fortune. Mr. Van Hoesen finally retured to Preble in May, 1857, where he resumed practice, securing a good business, which continued until his removal to Cortland two years later.

Churches. — Of the origin and early history of the Methodist Episcopal Society in Preble, nothing more than what follows is now definitely known: On the first Monday in May, 1824, the male members of the first M. E. Church Society of the town met according to previous notice in order to incorporate. James Selkrig was called to the chair and Jabez B. Phelps was appointed secretary. The society was then organized on a motion. James Selkrig and Frederick Wilcox were appointed returning officers; and James Selkrig, Almon Tickner and Benjamin Le Roy were appointed trustees.

It was resolved at this meeting that the corporate seal of this society be a cross. It was also decided that the annual meetings should thereafter be held on the first Monday of each year. The M. E. Church edifice was begun in the year 1820; was finished in 1824 and dedicated by the Rev.

Seth Mattison in the fall of the last mentioned year. Alterations were made in the pulpit and stairs in 1838, and other repairs were made and a bell procured in 1845. In 1859 the church building was moved eastward and about twelve feet added to its western end; the audience room was newly seated and the exterior painted, involving an expense of about $1,400.

The membership of this society is at the present time (1884) nearly one hundred. The Rev. W. H. York took charge of the church in 1883. The trustees are Robert Van Buskirk, Richard Squires, Seth Hobart. The stewards are John Manchester, Robert Van Buskirk, Seth Hobart and Abram Manchester.

Robert Van Buskirk is Sabbath school superintendent.

The Baptist Association was organized into a society under the direction of Elder Abbott in a very early day; but the date is not now available. The original number of the members was fourteen. The church seems to have prospered for a time, but has ceased to exist.

On the 27th of August, 1804, a church of eleven members was organized by two missionaries named Theodore Hinsdale and Joel Hayes, from the Hampshire Missionary Society of Connecticut. It was at first called the Congregational Church of Tully; but subsequently took the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Preble. During the years of its existence it was connected with the middle association, which was afterward dissolved, when the church was assigned to the care of the Onondaga Presbytery, and subsequently to the Cortland Presbytery. The church edifice was erected at Preble Center, but was removed to the Corners in 1840.

The first pastor of this church was the Rev. Matthew Harrison, who began his work in the year 1812 and continued until 1822, when he was dismissed. The Rev. Enoch Bouton then acted as stated supply until 1824, and following him the two succeeding years Rev. L. Weld preached to the congregation one-half of the time. Rev. Abner P. Clark followed him, being installed as pastor in 1827, in which capacity he acted during the next six years. The Rev. Gardner K. Clark was installed in 1833 and continued his labors during six years. After this time the congregation was supplied by Rev. Mr. Jones for a few months, and then by Rev. B. T. Foltse two years. Rev. Elliott H. Payson began his labors here in 1840. In 1842 he was installed as pastor and dismissed in 1844. At this time the society numbered over one hundred members. In 1841 a large number of the members separated themselves from the church and organized a society called the First Free Church of Preble. At the time of this division the building was removed to Preble Corners. Whatever may have been the disturbing element, the results have been to diminish the size of the society, which now numbers only about one hundred members. The Rev. W. C. McBeth took charge of the society April 8th, 1883, and served nine months. There is, at the present time (1884), no pastor. The elders are Nicholas Van Hoesen, Harry Cummings, Lewis Frederick, Clark Van Hoesen and Abram Severson. The trustees are John Haviland, Nicholas Van Hoesen and Clark Van Hoesen.

CHAPTER XXVII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SCOTT.

THE town of Scott lies in the extreme northwest part of Cortland county and comprises a portion of the old military township No. 14 of Tully. It was formed from the town of Preble on the 14th of April, 1815, and named in honor of Gen. Winfield Scott. Its surface is chiefly an upland, broken by two deep and narrow valleys, which extend north and south through the town. The declivities of the hills are steep and in many places precipitous.

The town is drained in the eastern valley by Cold brook, and Factory brook and Skaneateles inlet flow through the western valley. These streams not only drain the town, but furnish excellent water power. Skaneateles lake borders on the northwest corner of the town.

The soil is a sandy and gravelly loam, and the town embraces many most excellent farms. It is not, however, a grain-growing town, the land being generally better adapted to grazing, and the farmers are, in later years, turning their attention largely to dairying.

There is but one village in the town of Scott; it is called Scott Center, and contains about three hundred inhabitants. East Scott is a hamlet.

The first permanent settlement was made in the town in 1799. There had, however, been a rude hunter within its boundaries as early as 1795. He erected a bark shanty and lived by hunting, an employment in which he was quite successful. He spent about a year and a half in the solitude of this unbroken wilderness, when he was joined by a half-breed Indian, who is said to have come from Canada, and in a few months afterward they gathered up their peltry and made their way to a French trading-post, then established near Whitestown, where they sold out with a good profit. Dividing their effects they sought a retreat in the wilderness to the far West. The birth-place and other data in regard to this hunter are not known; though it was apparent that he was of French extraction.[1]

During the year 1799 several settlements were made in Scott. Peleg Babcock, accompanied by his brothers, Solomon and Asa Howard, came in from Leyden, Mass., and selected locations. Peleg settled on the south part of lot 82. Solomon located on the northwest part of the same lot, while Howard took up his abode a little to the east of his brother Solomon. About the same time George Denison, from Vermont, pitched his tent on the west part of the same lot, making the fourth settler on lot 82. Cornish Messenger and Daniel Jakeway came in from De Ruyter in 1800 and

[1] An Indian of the "Lenl" tribe, from whom we gather these facts and who occasionally visits the Oneidas, relates many characteristic anecdotes touching this singularly strange yet interesting original. Years after he was seen standing upon the bank of the great father of waters — the majestic Mississippi. There was heard a shriek, a plunge, the waters closed over the lone hunter and all that was mortal had disappeared forever. When the horror stricken Indian, who was with him and had watched his movements, called for the white man of the woods, the evil genius that had wrecked his hopes in early life and made him a wanderer, answered: —

"Where the dark tide runs strongest,
The cliff rises steep;
Where the wild waters eddy,
I have rocked him to sleep.

"His sleep is so strong,
That the rush of the stream
When the wild winds are abroad,
Cannot waken his dream."

—GOODWIN'S *History*.

settled on lot 92. In 1801 Maxon Babcock came in from Leyden and located on the northeast corner of lot 82. Ghershon Richardson and his two sons-in-law, by the name of Clark, came from Pompey, Onondaga county, and located on lot 71. In 1802 Henry Burdick, a native of Rhode Island, migrated from Colerain, Mass., and located on lot 72. He purchased originally, in company with John Babcock, 109 acres. He was an active and prominent pioneer in his locality. Jared Babcock came in during the year 1804 and spent about three or four years. In 1809 he was engaged in mercantile trade in Spafford, being the first merchant in that place. He subsequently removed to Homer.

John Gillet, from Norfolk, Connecticut, located during the same year (1805), but did not purchase until 1807 or 1808, when he selected 100 acres on lot 84. He filled the office of justice of the peace for a period of twenty years; that of supervisor and other town offices at various times; he was associate judge of the county court for fifteen successive years and also member of the Legislature and presidential elector.

Jacob Smith, from Delphi, located in 1806 on lot 84; his original purchase was fifty acres; he, however, made subsequent additions until he had a farm of one hundred and five acres.

In 1806 Daniel Doubleday came from Lebanon, Connecticut, and located in the town of Homer. In 1809 he removed to Scott and settled on lot 105. He reared a respectable family, accumulated property and was a useful citizen.

In 1805 Elisha Sabins and John Babcock cut and cleared a road from Scott Corners (then called Babcock's Corners) to Spafford Corners. They transported their goods to their new home on sleds and found it a hard journey. The next year Isaac Hall, of the latter place, passed over the road with a wagon, and after purchasing a load of lumber at Babcock's Settlement, put it on his wagon and drew it to his home in Spafford.

As an indication of what life in Scott was at this early period, it used to be related by Solomon Babcock that in the summer of 1799 he was in the habit of making frequent visits to his brother's corn-field, accompanied by a small dog, for the purpose of driving away the bears, they being very troublesome and destructive to the corn crop. It was a common occurrence to find half a dozen in the field at a time, and to him it was amusing to see them hasten off at the bark of the harmless dog. An incident denoting the plentifulness of game was also related by Mr. Babcock. Early in the month of March he went into the woods for the purpose of obtaining a birch broomstick. The snow was about three feet deep and the crust sufficiently strong to bear a man's weight. A fierce and well-trained dog belonging to his brother Peleg bore him company, and before the trunk of the little sapling was secured, he had actually killed seven deer. The small feet of the animals, as is well known to hunters, would push through the snow crust, making it impossible for them to run with any speed.

Another hunting incident which occurred in this town is of sufficient interest for these pages. Three persons started out in the month of March, 1799, in pursuit of bears, which had been unusually numerous and bold during that season. One of the men soon gave out and returned, but the other two continued in pursuit, the trail leading in the direction of Skaneateles lake; but the snow being very deep, the others finally gave up and concluded to return home by a circuitous route, in the hope of meeting with an old bear which had wintered within a mile of their home. As they neared the spot the bear was discovered. Both hunters discharged their guns, but only suc-

ceeded in wounding the animal. He hastily left for other quarters, followed by his pursuers, who, after camping out for the night near Skaneateles lake, drove him in a clearing eight miles from home, in Sempronius, where they dispatched him and took off his hide, out of which they made each of them a cap, as they had lost theirs the day before, and returned home.

The first ordained preacher in the town of Scott was Elder Town. The first persons baptized were Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Babcock, the former in Homer.

The first merchant was Nathan Babcock.

The first inn-keeper was James Babcock. The first postmaster, John Gillet. The first marriage, Solomon Babcock to Amy Morgan. Their marriage was solemnized in the fall of 1802. There being no authorized person at hand to perform the ceremony, the parties went to Homer on horseback, and after attending church went to 'Squire Bishop's, on East Hill, where they were wed.

The first child born in Scott was Harriet Babcock. The first death was an infant daughter of Peleg Babcock.

Public religious worship began about the year 1806 or '07. The Close Communion Baptists, the Seventh-Day Baptists, the Presbyterians and the Methodists, each formed prosperous societies.

The first postmaster of East Scott, was Alvan Kellogg, the cloth manufacturer and dresser with whom President Millard Fillmore learned his trade.

The first saw-mill in the town of Scott was erected as early as the year 1804, by Henry Burdick; it stood on Skaneateles inlet where A. L. Whiting's flax-mill is at present located. He was an enterprising Rhode Islander, who preceded his father from Massachusetts to this town in 1802. Henry Burdick, sen., came a year or so afterward. The water privilege was on lot 72, and owned at a later period by George S. Green. Henry Burdick sold out his farm, originally purchased in 1802, to his father and removed to where Henry L. Burdick now lives. The saw-mill, soon after its erection, passed into possession of Nehemiah Brown, who took it between the years 1810 and 1812; he was a son-in-law of Esquire Paul Babcock. The latter was a relative of Henry Babcock. Comfort Brown was the next owner of the mill and utilized this valuable water privilege until the year 1858. James Skillie and Dr. Babcock each also had possession of it for a short time; but during the year 1863 A. L. Whiting bought the property and turned it into a flax-mill. He used it first for dressing flax, and subsequently for manufacturing tow for upholstering purposes. The mill is still in use.

John Gillett, before alluded to, bought one hundred acres of land on lot 84, in 1807, and built the mill there two or three years later. Mr. Gillett was an active, prosperous and prominent man. J. H. Gillett now owns the mill. About the year 1835 Harlow Gillett, only son of John Gillett, built a foundry, which was run for a number of years and burned. Upon the site now stands a workshop, owned and operated by his sons, who are skillful mechanics.

Alvan Kellogg, the first postmaster of East Scott, came to the town in 1805, and built a saw-mill within the next few years. His son, Silas Kellogg, now owns the old homestead, and Lewis Hazard and Hamilton Whitney the saw-mill. A prior owner was James Bacon, who placed flax machinery in the mill in 1878, and the present firm built a flax store-house there more recently.

Messenger & Kenyon built a grist-mill on the site now owned by George W. Southwick, in 1817, and sold it to Samuel

Hardy about the year 1832; he rebuilt the structure almost entirely. The mill then passed successively through the hands of the following persons: Case & Melville, George W. Southwick, Sylvanus Grout, George W. Southwick, Mr. Meade, Ammeron & Ellis and George W. Southwick; the latter has also operated a shingle-mill in connection with the grist-mill.

About the year 1828 or 1829 Luke Babcock built a grist-mill two and a half stories high, a short distance below the Messenger mill, in which were two runs of stone. In the ownership of this mill he was succeeded by Lucius Dyer, Edwin Norton, Raymond P. Babcock (who made general repairs and put in a new wheel), Isaac Bellows, R. P. Babcock, J. L. & L. H. Comstock, and John B. Cottrell, the present owner. The mill is located about a mile from Scott Center.

Three-fourths of a mile below the Cottrell mill is the frame of an old flax-mill that was put in operation at an early day by the West family, who ran it until about the year 1865. The property is still owned by members of the family, but the mill is not used as such.

Near the old saw-mill built by Jonathan Scott and about opposite to it, is the oil-mill built by him. The saw-mill was erected in 1828 and the oil-mill in 1830. The latter has always been kept in the hands of the Scott family, being now owned and operated by Ransom Scott. The site of the old saw-mill now belongs to Esquire Hunt. A freshet of twenty years ago carried off the saw-mill, and three thousand bushels of flax seed.

Ransom Scott built a distillery in the vicinity of these mills during the War of the Rebellion. It was afterward burned.

In 1880 a saw-mill was built by Samuel Scott a mile below the oil-mill, which he still owns. On the east shore at the head of the lake Greeley Cady and brothers built a steam saw-mill in 1883, making the last of the numerous mills on this stream, in that direction; but there are others on the same stream northward from Scott Center. A. Babcock built one of these in 1833; it is now owned by Childs & Hazard, who put in flax machinery soon after 1880. It is now a combination of a circular saw-mill, a flax-mill and a wagon shop.

The Townsley saw-mill, in the vicinity of East Scott, was built by Henry Townsley, an old resident of the place, about 1825. This was afterward converted into a grist-mill and is now used for grinding coarse products.

The tanning business in Scott was probably begun in an early period by a Mr. Dowd, a shoemaker, who had in connection with his shop a few vats for curing hides. Eastman & Lawrence established a tannery about the year 1830, on a much more extensive scale.

Prior to this date, B. A. Denison carried on the business of carding and fulling cloth. He died in 1828.

From the period of 1855 to 1860 and down to the present time the farmers of Scott have earned an excellent reputation for the quality, as well as the quantity of their dairy products. The grass lands of the town are unexcelled and by the improved methods of late years, with which the farmers have made themselves familiar, a product that enjoys a first class reputation is made. The cheese factory, located just north of Scott Center, was formerly owned and operated very successfully by John B. Cottrell & Son.

The first annual town meeting of Scott was held at the school-house near Paul Babcock's, according to appointment, on Tuesday, March 5th, 1816, and the following business was transacted: —

Peleg Babcock was chosen supervisor of the town, and David Harris, town clerk.

Other officers were Paul Babcock, Henry Babcock and Holly Maxson, assessors.

George Frink, Ansel Wilcox and Henry Burdick, commissioners of highways.

George Frink and Benjamin Pelton, poor masters.

Loring Boies, constable and collector.

Paul Babcock, Benjamin Pelton and David Harris, commissioners of public money.

Paul Babcock, Ezra Babcock and Jabez Barber, school commissioners.

John Gillett, Ephraim Babcock and David Harris, school inspectors.

It was voted at this meeting that $25 be raised for the support of the poor.

Down to the year 1860 peace reigned in the town of Scott, in common with the remainder of the county. The farmers labored diligently and effectively for the clearing of their lands, and though isolated entirely from railroad communication with other portions of the county and State, prosperity prevailed and the inhabitants were contented. Schools multiplied and the youth of the town grew up in an atmosphere of intelligence. When the first gun in the great Rebellion was fired, it found the people of this town imbued with such patriotism, that her young men went forth to aid in sustaining the government as freely as from any other portion of the county, while her treasure was liberally devoted to the payment of such bounties as were deemed advisable by the county authorities. Following is a list of the enlistments from this town of all men who were paid bounties: —

Call of October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864. Bounty, $300. Total, $9,300. — Oren D. Wheeler, Miles G. Frisbie, Jonathan Scott, David Scott, Clark C. Spencer, Edwin P. Burdick, William H. Brown, Ambrose H. Mabie, Henry C. Babcock, Francis E. Barber, Andrew S. Barber, William Spencer, Philo Fuller, Andrew D. Collins, Edmund D. Crosby, James B. Richardson, Sidney Harrington, Washington B. Fisk, William A. Picket, Charles Barnum, Lucius E. Robinson, Janna P. Northaway, Lorenzo D. Whiting, Stennett C. Stillman, John T. Pratt, Charles R. Whiting, Thomas Blunden, John Wagner, William Stringham, James B. Clark, James Fenton.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty $1,000. Total, $6,000. Brokerage, $150. — James R. Corl, Nathan M. Bennett, Edwin E. Dunn, Albert G. Geutcheous, William B. Maxson, Daniel B. Pender.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty $600. Total, $9,600. Brokerage, $240. — John Brittle, James Gordon, Patrick J. Brady, Thomas Daley, Thomas Murphy, John Adams, Nicholas Haler, Henry Kraft, Thomas Tully, William Wolfer, Jonathan Francis, Adam Sherr, Edward S. Anable, John Breman, John Carlton, Joseph Suger.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls for October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $9,300. Paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $6,150. Paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $2,640. Grand total, $18,090.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of the town, the supervisor's name in each case preceding that of the clerk: —

From 1825 to 1827, inclusive, Aaron Brown, Ezekiel Potter; 1828, Aaron Brown, P. Hoadley; 1829–30, Aaron Brown, G. S. Green; 1831, Aaron Brown, Phineas H. Burdick; 1832–33, Aaron Brown, G. S. Green; 1834–35, Alvan Kellogg, John Barber; 1836, Alvan Kellogg, Alonzo D. C. Barber; 1837–38, Alvan Kellogg, Simeon M. Babcock; 1839, John Barber, Alonzo C. Barber; 1840, Anson L. Whiting, Jerome K. Babcock; 1841, Geo. M. Niles, J. K. Babcock; 1842, George M. Niles,

Thomas Hunt; 1843, N. Salisbury, Ambrose Higgins; 1844–45, Alvan Kellogg, ————; 1846, Alvan Kellogg, A. L. Whiting; 1847, Ransom Scott, William M. Burdick; 1848, Chauncey W. Bierce, A. D. C. Barber; 1849–50, Isaac S. Jackson, Sanford D. Kinney; 1851, Joseph Atwater, A. L. Whiting; 1852, A. W. Clark, Joseph Atwater; 1853, Joseph Atwater, A. L. Whiting; 1854, A. W. Clark, Samuel A. Childs; 1855–56, Hammond A. Cottrell, John J. Wagner; 1857–58, Samuel A. Childs, William A. Alvord; 1859–60, Edmund Spencer, Peter Knapp; 1861, Chauncey W. Bierce, John K. Chandler; 1862, S. A. Knapp, P. Childs; 1863–64, Cyrus Kellogg, Peter Knapp; 1865, Jeremiah G. Alvord, Peter Knapp; 1866, S. A. Childs, Fenn G. Alvord; 1867, Raymond P. Babcock, Frank D. Babcock; 1868, Isaac M. Bellows, F. A. Babcock; 1869–70, S. A. Childs, S. D. Babcock; 1871–72, Phineas Hutchins, Wm. A. Morgan; 1873, Dwight K. Cutler, W. A. Morgan; 1874, Chauncey W. Bierce, W. A. Morgan; 1875, Phineas Hutchins, W. A. Morgan; 1876, John D. Cottrell, W. D. Morgan; 1877, S. A. Childs, W. H. Morgan; 1878–79, G. D. Crosley, W. H. Morgan; 1880, Dwight K. Cutler, W. H. Morgan; 1881, William A. Niver, W. H. Morgan; 1882–83, W. H. Morgan, S. C. Stillman.

The present town officers for the town of Scott are: —

Supervisor — W. H. Morgan.

Town clerk — S. C. Stillman.

Justices of the peace — Byron L. Barber, Wm. D. Hunt, G. F. Barber.

Commissioner of highways — Norman E. Black.

Assessors — Sylvanus A. Churchill, Jared Babcock, Miles G. Frisbie.

Overseer of the poor — D. D. L. Burdick.

Collector — Elbert E. Barker.

Auditors — Elias L. Frisbie, Henry Underwood, Fenn G. Alvord.

Inspectors of election — W. C. Bockes, James Taft, Edward Slocum, Edwin P. Burdick, John Knight, J. B. Underwood.

Game constable — H. D. Babcock.

Excise commissioner — Lewis S. Hazard.

SCOTT CENTER.

The village of Scott (or Scott Center) is situated near the center of the town and contains a population of about three hundred. It has a hotel, three stores, two churches and one or two shops.

The first merchant in the place was Nathan Babcock, who had a store on the grounds now occupied by the present hotel building. He was, during a part of his stay in the village, engaged in teaching a day school.

In 1828 George F. Green located in the place and built the original part of the present hotel building and also the house on the opposite corner now owned and occupied by his son. After building the store he occupied it as a merchant until 1840 or 1841. He came from De Ruyter to this place in 1824.

William Alvord was an early trader and bought out Mr. Green. Alvord was in business but about fourteen years. Succeeding came Lewis & Cottrell, and in 1844 L. A. Whiting also began trading in the village, continuing for sixteen years. He was burned out in the destructive fire of 1858.

As early as the year 1833 George Ross built the store just north of the present post-office and went into business with George Atwater. On the first of April, 1836, Wm. Alvord succeeded and traded five years at that stand, finally selling out to P. H. Van Schaick. Following came Welch & Howells, Dr. Ira Babcock, Martin Knapp, Miles Bierce, Sanford Kinney, Wm.

H. Alvord, and Philander Knight, who owned the store in 1858, when it was burned.

The store building on the corner, now owned by S. R. McConnell, was built by R. P. Babcock about the year 1865 or 1866. Isaac N. Bellows traded here for a while, also; Mr. McConnell has been in business at this locality since 1872.

The store now owned by Tinkham & Churchill was built by Elijah Niver just before the late war.

S. C. Stillman, town clerk of the town of Scott, established the drug business in 1880, and keeps also a line of other goods. He has a tin shop in connection with his store.

The harness trade was early established in the village by Jerry Jones, Hiram Herrick and others. John H. Chandler afterward engaged in this business and continued it for many years. He was succeeded by W. H. Morgan, a skillful mechanic, in 1866. Mr. Morgan is also postmaster at the present time, succeeding H. W. Babcock in 1872.

The first physician, probably, in the town was Dr. Huntington. He practiced in this place a number of years and died in 1840. His son Justin lived in the town until he reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years, dying in 1883. Dr. Whiting was also an early physician in the town, but removed to the West about fifty years ago. Dr. Stowell came in about the year 1824, but remained only a few years. Phineas H. Burdick came in a little later and in 1828 became a member of the County Medical Association. In 1834 he removed to Preble, where he continued practice until his death in 1870. Dr. Ira L. Babcock became a member of the County Medical Society in 1832. Dr. Wm. M. Truman studied medicine with Dr. Maxson in 1833; afterwards attended college and began practice in the village in 1834 or 1835. He remained only two or three years and then removed to Lincklaen, Chenango county. A few years later he returned to Scott, remaining two years. Dr. Hazlett Wilcox came about 1850; his stay was also short. Dr. Clarke Hubbard came in 1854 and practiced here until his death. Dr. Waters came in 1859, but entered the Union army at the breaking out of the late war. Dr. D. C. Sydney came in 1869, but left for Friendship, Pa., the following year. Dr. Irvin Truman came in 1872. Dr. Maxson, the oldest physician in the town, and one of the oldest in the county, was educated at Fairfield, Herkimer county, N. Y., and graduated in 1830, going first to Plymouth, Chenango county. He came from that place to Scott in 1833. In 1834, on the 16th of May, he became a member of the County Medical Society. He practices in the old school of medicine.

The old hotel of the village was probably built by Daniel Royce before 1830. It was at that time a small affair, serving the purposes of a saloon as much as of a hotel. Joseph Royce made some additions in 1830. Thomas Harrop next took the proprietorship and added seventy feet to the building for a saloon. This would indicate that the business was prosperous. Following him in the hotel came Nathan Culver for a few years, after which there were many changes. Charles Dunbar was proprietor of this house when it burned on the morning of May 4th, 1879. Mr. Dunbar then opened the present hotel, which he still successfully conducts.

The Presbyterian Church of Scott.—This society was organized May 25th, 1818, by a committee of the Presbytery of Onondaga. It remained in this connection until the organization of the Cortland Presbytery, when it was assigned to that. The Congregational form of government was adopted in

1825, but the church still retained its connection with the Presbytery. Rev. Reuben Hurd was ministering to the congregation during a portion of its early history. Rev Mr. Dunning was the second minister and after him Rev. Mathew Harrison gave one-fourth of his time to the church. Rev. Llewellyn R. Powell began preaching here in August, 1833, and was installed as pastor August 25th, 1835 continuing about three years. After this date came Rev. Mr. Redfield and Rev. Mr. Foltse. In the year 1842 Rev. Daniel Slie, a Unionist, was employed for one year. Rev. Hiram Harris was made pastor in the fall of 1843. He was then a licentiate preacher and was installed and ordained by the Presbytery of Cortland on the 18th of October, of the same year. Mr. Harris preached at Borodino one-half of the time during the year 1845. The church has been always small in membership. In 1825 it had but twenty-four members; in 1836, sixty-eight, and in 1846, seventy; since then it has gradually diminished until the year 1878, when the building was removed from its foundation and used for other purposes. The church building was erected, but not entirely finished, in 1838.

The Close Communion Baptist Church was the oldest organization in the town. Its membership was the largest in the town at one period. It has ceased to exist and there are no available records of its career.

The Seventh-Day Baptists have an organization in this town, which dates from an early period. No records of the society could be obtained from which to compile its history. The society is in a flourishing condition; a good Sabbath-school is connected with it. The present deacons are John Barber, E. H. P. Potter and Lewis Hazard. Miss Artelia Babcock is superintendent of the Sabbath-school; there is no present pastor.

The Methodist Episcopal Society has a membership of one hundred, with a good Sabbath-school, under the direction of C. J. Jones. The organization dates back to an early period, but no records are in existence from which to write its history. Rev. Mr. Sharpe, the pastor, took charge of the church in 1882. The church officers are Chas. Jones, C. Clark, Watson J. Black, James Clark, Franklin Ticket, Dr. G. W. Maxson, Solomon Clark, John Lamphire, Henry Niver, Mrs. Letitia Bedell and Mrs. Jared Babcock.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SOLON.

SOLON is one of the interior towns of the county and is bounded on the north by Truxton; on the east by Taylor; on the south by Freetown, and on the west by Cortlandville and Homer, thus locating it near the center of the county.

Solon was No. 20 of the townships comprising the old military tract and originally embraced the territory now comprising Solon, Taylor and the southern portions of Truxton and Cuyler. The town was organized on the 9th of March, 1798. Its former dimensions were reduced in April, 1811, by annexing the north fourteen lots to Truxton, and again in 1849 by the erection of the town of Taylor. The town now comprises 19,068 acres, with an assessed valuation of $17.55 per acre and a total valuation of $334,705.

The surface of the town is broken by a

number of valleys, through which flow small streams. On the eastern border the ridges rise to an elevation of from fourteen to fifteen hundred feet above tide. Trout brook flows through the town in a northwesterly direction and is bordered by a fertile valley. Pritchard, North and Maybury brooks flow into Trout brook from the north, and Smith brook flows from the southern portion of the town towards the northwest. The soil of Solon is a gravelly loam, much better adapted to grazing than grain-growing. Dairying is the most prominent interest to which farmers now turn their attention.

There are in the town one post-office, one store, one saw-mill, one grist-mill, one cheese factory, one hotel, one blacksmith shop, two churches, Roman Catholic and Baptist.

The first permanent settlement in Solon was made in 1794 by Roderick Beebe and Johnson Bingham. The former located on lot No. 75, on that portion known as Mount Roderick. He came originally from Massachusetts.

Mr. Bingham was a native of Connecticut, but came to Solon from Vermont, locating on lot 62. He purchased 550 acres; was justice of the peace for about twenty years, and associate judge for quite a period. He reared eight children.

William Galpin was probably one of the next settlers in the town, locating on lot 47 in the year 1797; he came from New Jersey. He was one of the many unfortunates who bought land and found they had no valid title, and he removed to Pompey, Onondaga county.

In 1799 John Welch came into the town from Wyoming and located a little south of the farm of Roderick Beebe. He remained but a few years and removed to Cleveland, Ohio.

Col. Elijah Wheeler, from New Haven, Conn., came in in the year 1801 and located on lot 100, where he purchased originally 100 acres.

Settlements were made principally in the northern and eastern portions of this town during the early period, and many who came in at an early day are noticed in the histories of those later divisions. Captain Stephen N. Peck came from Stanford, Duchess county, N. Y., and located on lot 62 in March, 1804. He first purchased ninety-two acres but subsequently added considerably to his farm. He lived on his place to a good old age.

Garrett Pritchard was one of the pioneers who came into the wilderness full of determination to do his part towards making it "blossom as the rose." He was from Litchfield, Conn., and located on lot 74 in the year 1807. He came into the town with a pack on his back and $16.50 in money in his pockets. His father had preceded him one year and was finding it difficult to meet the small payments falling due on his land; but the son came to his aid and paid $500 on his father's estate, afterward locating on lot 75. He became the owner of 500 acres of land and lived the latter years of his life in the enjoyment of his competence.

In the same year of Pritchard's arrival Richard Maybury came from Luzerne, Pa., and located on the State's hundred, lot 53, where he purchased 100 acres. He was an industrious and worthy citizen.

Stephen N. Peck, with his wife and two children, came in from Duchess county in 1805. He located on lot 62 and lived to be over ninety years old, retaining his faculties to a remarkable degree. His sons, Lyman E., Burlingham, Platt and John all settled in the town.

Luke Chapin, father of Hiram Chapin, came from Massachusetts in 1805 and settled on lot 42. In the same year Gen. S. G. Hathaway, who was also from Massa-

chusetts, settled on lot 71 and two years later removed to lot 73, in Solon, where he spent the remainder of his life. In 1810 he was appointed justice of the peace and held the office forty-eight successive years; he gained the reputation of being the ablest magistrate in this office in the county, possessing the faculty of seeing intuitively into the merits of cases before him, making up his mind as to the facts with rare judgment from which no ability or ingenuity on the part of lawyers could swerve him. His fairness and justice were seldom or never called in question. He represented Cortland county in the Legislature in 1814 and 1818. In the last named year he procured a division of the town of Cincinnatus, and the part of it in which he resided at that time fell within the limits of Freetown, which was named after his native town in Massachusetts. He was elected to the State Senate in 1822, to Congress in 1832 and was chosen presidential elector in 1852. He had a decided taste for military affairs and rose through the various grades of office until he was commissioned major-general in 1823. He was an able politician and possessed of those qualities that give an influence over men and tend to make their possessor a leader. Mr. Hathaway died without disease, while sitting in his chair at six o'clock A. M. on the 2d of May, 1867, in the eighty-seventh year of his age. His son, Calvin L. Hathaway, resides on the homestead and is a man of prominence in the county, both as a business man and a politician.

Henry L. Randall was one of the prominent early pioneers, who came from Sharon, Conn., and located on lot 74 in 1808. He made the journey with his wife and three children, with a two horse team, bringing a few necessary articles with which to begin life in his wilderness home. He lived more than half a century where he first settled and reared a family of five children, and died in 1863. One of his sons, Orrin Randall, now lives on lot No. 6, where he is pleasantly located. He married Libbie Bean, daughter of Josiah Bean (an early settler on the same lot), and removed from lot 74 to his present location in 1876.

Joel Rankin, also from Massachusetts, settled on lot 42 in 1807. His daughter Margaret became the wife of Amos Pritchard.

Luke Cass, from New Hampshire, settled on lot 51. Columbus Cass, his son, came in with his father and afterwards located on lot 61. Jonathan Rundall, from Sharon, Conn., located on lot 74. Ebenezer Blake, from Stoddard, New Hampshire, settled on lot 84. Joseph Holden, an early settler, located where Edward Holden now lives.

Such were the principal pioneers who came into this town at an early day to spend their lives in subduing the wilderness, encountering hardships and privations which are all unknown at the present time. Settlement in the town was not very rapid and it was long after the close of the War of 1812 before all the land was occupied and largely under cultivation.

The first birth in the town of Solon was that of a daughter of Johnson Bingham. The first marriage united Robert Smith and Amy Smith. The first death was that of Lydia Bingham, which event occurred on the 9th of May, 1798. Johnson Bingham died in 1843 and his wife, Annie, died November 14th, 1865, at the great age of 102 year, 11 months and 25 days.

The first school was taught in Solon by Roxana Beebe and Lydamana Stewart, in the year 1804. Benjamin Tubbs kept the first store and Lewis Beebe the first tavern. The first mill was built by Noah Greeley, and the first church was organized in 1804, by the Rev. Josiah Butler, who was the first preacher.

The mill built by Noah Greeley was a saw-mill, and the first grist-mill was built by Eber Wilcox; it was located on Maybury creek just below the site of the present mill and was erected in 1812. The water-wheel was made of a log some twenty feet in length and acted on the recoil principal which was patented before that time by a Mr. Barker. The water entered a hole in the middle of the log, was conducted through a large bore to either end, where it escaped through smaller holes on opposite sides of the log, the action of the water against the air serving to revolve the wheel. A child of Mr. Wilcox fell into this wheel when it was in motion and was killed.

John Maybury built the present mill, now owned by his nephew, E. B. Maybury, prior to 1840. It soon afterward passed into the hands of General Hathaway and was then leased to C. Albridge, who ran it a number of years, a part of the time with his son-in-law, Wm. Dorr. It then passed into the hands of P. F. Moses, then to P. P. Moses and finally in 1874 to the present owner, who put in a turbine wheel; the mill has now two run of stones and does a flouring and custom business.

Palmer's furniture factory is located near the Maybury mill, its water power being drawn from the same dam. The building was erected in 1876, by E. E. Palmer, who put in machinery for the extensive manufacture of all kinds of furniture.

A cheese factory was in operation in this neighborhood between 1874 and 1876. Benton Dice removed the frame of this structure from Blodgett's Mills, but soon afterward sold it to Irving Stevens; it was burned in 1876.

The only cheese factory now in Solon is located near the village, or hamlet, and was built in the winter of 1881–82, by B. T. Turner. It is a creamery and the building was erected over "Bear spring," which is noted for the purity and coldness of its water. The establishment is doing a good business.

The hamlet of Solon is located near the center of the town, and contains a store, post-office and a hotel.

The first merchant was Benjamin Tubbs; he was followed by Samuel Wilber. Flint Phelps kept a store for a time two miles west of the hamlet, but it was finally abandoned. Since then the mercantile trade of the town has all been done in Solon, and was for many years conducted by Samuel Emerson. He was one of the pioneer settlers, who came in from New England in 1803 and located one mile west of the hamlet. He died in 1869, at the age of eighty-three years. His father was in the Revolutionary War and also in the War of 1812. Mr. Emerson's store was on the east side of the creek.

The principal merchants of the place since Mr. Emerson have been Lyman Alden, Ezra Rockwell, A. Stevens, Lyman and Rufus Peck, Willis Holmes and A. S. Brown, who is the present proprietor. He began business in 1883, carries a large general stock of goods and receives the patronage of most of the inhabitants of the town.

The production of maple sugar is carried on to a large extent in Solon. Many of the sugar camps contain from one to three thousand trees. During the sugar making season of 1884 Mr. Brown handled and shipped a ton of this product per day. Among those who engage most largely in this manufacture we may mention Jerome White, Luman Maybury, John Maybury, Adelbert Holden, B. H. Randall, E. Z. Smith, George Cooper, Joel Pritchard, Silas Stevens, Robert Smith, James Finn, Daniel Morris, Alfred Smith, John Livingston, Philander Underwood, S. Marten, Joseph Murphy, Jacob Atkins and Isaac Walker.

The first tavern in Solon was located a

mile or so west of the hamlet, and was kept by Lewis Beebe. William Copeland, son-in-law of Mr. Emerson, before mentioned, was the first tavern-keeper at the hamlet. Succeeding him came Noah Goodrich, John Wheeler, Mr. Fish, Wm. and Philip Hays, A. S. Pierce, John and James Warden, and Earl Palmer. The tavern is now kept by James Warden. The present building was erected by Earl Palmer in 1865.

Churches.— The Baptist Church in Solon was organized in 1804 by Rev. Josiah Butler. We were unable to learn much relative to the past history of the church; it is not, however, in as flourishing condition as in former years.

There is a Catholic Church in the town which is under the effective guidance of Father McLoghlin, of Cortland village.

The Presbyterian Church was organized September 11th, 1827, with a membership of fifteen. The membership has always been small. The church was furnished a portion of the time for a year or two, with preaching by the Presbytery of Cortland, and was dissolved in 1831.

When the great Rebellion broke out the patriotic people of Solon volunteered freely for the defense of the Union, and many sealed their devotion to their country with their blood. Following are the names of those who gave their lives in the perpetuation of liberty, from this town: —

Lucius Randall, son of Orrin Randall, killed at Gravelly Run, March 29th, 1865. Orrin Reed, killed in the same battle. John Cahill died in a rebel prison. Dayton Harvey, son of Charles Harvey, died from wounds received in battle at Gettysburg. John Stevens, son of Jacob Stevens, died in Libby prison. Job Gillett, died in hospital. Dennis B. Hicks, died of wounds received in service. Edwin Fish, died in hospital at Hilton Head. James Atwood, died on the field. Adelbert Taylor, died in Washington, and ——— Walker died after returning home.

Following is a list of the soldiers who went from this town and were paid bounties and credited to this town: —

Call of Oct. 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864. Bounty paid, $300. Total, $2,700. — James Sargant, Daniel Barnes, Horatio Niles Hicks, Mark Brownell, John Cahill, William R. Wells, Edwin R. Albridge, William B. Gilbert, Luther P. Hicks.

The early records of this town are not now available; we were unable to find a list of town officers earlier than 1844, since which date the following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks, the supervisor's name appearing first in each instance, with the present town officers: —

1844–45, Rufus Rice, John Wheeler. Ezra Rockwell, Stephen Kellogg, 1846. Ezra Rockwell, Russel C. Fowler, 1847. John Wheeler, Lewis M. Wolsey, 1848. John Wheeler, Samuel G. Hathaway, 1849. John Wheeler, Freeman Warren, 1850–51–52. John Wheeler, Samuel G. Hathaway, 1853. Johnson Wheeler, Lyman Stone, 1854. Johnson Wheeler, John M. Freeman, 1855. Johnson Wheeler, Lewis Dickinson, 1856. David I. Brownell, Lewis Dickinson, 1857. David I. Brownell, Randolph R. Maybury, 1858. David I. Brownell, Cornelius D. Fish, 1859. Philander P. Moses, Robert B. Fish, 1860. Philander P. Moses, Leroy D. Stevens, 1861. Calvin L. Hathaway, Earl Palmer, 1862. Ransom Warren, Earl Palmer, 1863. David I. Brownell, Earl Palmer, 1864. David I. Brownell, Melvin Maybury, 1865–66. David I. Brownell, Harvey J. Stone, 1867. Johnson Wheeler, Harvey J. Stone, 1868. Calvin Hathaway, Lyman Peck, jr., 1869. David P. Brownell, Harvey J. Stone, 1870. John Wheeler, Harvey J. Stone, 1871. John Wheeler, Mordeca L. Totman, 1873. Philo F. Moses, Mordeca L. Totman, 1874. Har-

vey J. Stone, Mordecai L. Totman, 1875. Harvey J. Stone, James Dougherty, 1876. J. J. Walker, James Dougherty, 1877. J. J. Walker, C. T. Peck, 1878–79. James Dougherty, William E. Burr, 1880–81–82. James Dougherty, B. H. Randall, 1883.

The present officers of the town (1884) are: —

Supervisor — James Dougherty.

Town clerk — Andrew S. Brown.

Assessor — A. Holden.

Commissioner of highways — Joel C. Pritchard.

Collector — Oscar Smith.

Overseer of the poor — James Finn.

Constables — John Withey, Wm. Burke, Ed. Diver, John Barnes.

Inspectors of election — F. B. Graves, John Dorthy, Ephraim Smith.

Commissioner of excise — Jerome Maybury.

Justices — Alfred Warren, L. W. Greenman, John R. Maybury, E. B. Maybury.

CHAPTER XXIX.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF FREETOWN.

FREETOWN is bounded on the north by Solon and Cortlandville; on the east by Cincinnatus; on the south by Marathon, and on the west by Virgil and Cortlandville, and lies a little south of the center of the county, on a ridge between the Otselic and Tioughnioga rivers. Its surface is high and hilly, broken by small streams flowing north and south through the town. It comprises 16,425¼ acres, with an assessed value per acre of $20.52; total assessed value of real estate, $337,145.

This town was organized on the 21st of April, 1818, and comprises what was the northwestern quarter of the old military township of Cincinnatus, with lot No. 20 which was taken from Virgil in 1820. The soil is a clay loam, better adapted to grazing than grain growing, although good crops of corn, oats, barley, potatoes, etc., are raised. In later years especial attention has been given to dairying and with excellent results.

The pioneers of this town encountered hardships greater than were experienced by those of many other towns in the county. The natural aspect of the wilderness in this section was forbidding and the land difficult to clear. To get their corn ground the pioneers usually preferred to go to Manlius or Onondaga Hollow, rather than to Chenango Forks or Ludlowville; the distance they thus had to travel was about forty miles, fording streams and often being compelled to camp out one or more nights on the way, exposed to storms and dangers from wild animals. The roads were mere paths which could be followed only by marked trees. These tedious journeys had to be made until 1798, in which year the first grist-mill was erected in Homer, as heretofore stated; and even this improvement left the pioneer of Freetown a long distance to travel through the forest to mill.

The first settler in Freetown was Cyrus Saunders. He was a native of Rhode Island and was born May 19th, 1772; he married Nancy Hiscock, also a native of that State, in 1794 and came to Freetown in 1795, locating on lot No. 5. He dwelt there about fifteen years — years of severe toil and privations, but made endurable to

him by the thought that he was making a home for his family and his own enjoyment in old age. When his last payment on the land was made he learned to his consternation that his title, like so many to which we have referred, was imperfect and his farm was lost to him. He removed with his family to Factory Hill, in Homer village, where he remained until the factory burned in 1815, his children working in the factory during that period. His children were Naby (now Mrs. Naby House), Catharine, Almeda, Lavina, Cyrus, Nancy, Perry and Elisha.

From Homer the family removed to the town of Solon, on lot No. 81, settling on fifty acres of land for which he paid $300. The tract was covered with forest and Mr. Saunders had practically to begin life over again, the first step in which was to build a log house. They lived on this farm about nineteen years, after which he and his son, Perry H., went to McGrawville and bought the carding and cloth-dressing mill which had been conducted by Eber Wilcox and John Peat. This business they continued for a period of ten years, after which they removed to Cuyler, in what is known as the Kenney Settlement. Cyrus Saunders finally removed to Chautauqua county, where he died in 1856.

Nancy Saunders, wife of Cyrus Saunders, took her infant daughter, Naby (now a resident of Westfield, Chautauqua county), in the year 1796, and made a journey on horseback to her former home in Rhode Island; she was accompanied by a neighboring woman. A year's residence in the wilderness, where she had seldom seen a white woman, had given the young wife a feeling of homesickness which she imagined would be dispelled by a visit to her old home. It must have been a long and trying journey, but was made without serious mishap. The infant, Naby, was one of the children who worked in the Homer factory and is now living, as above stated, and enjoys good health at the age of eighty-nine years.

Robert Smith, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, was one of the very early settlers in Freetown, having drawn lot No. 2 for his services to the country. He located himself and family on the lot in 1800, where he had prepared a mere log cabin for their accommodation. After some years of severe struggles to make a home in the wilderness, he sold his property to Samuel G. Hathaway. Mr. Smith's descendants afterwards lived in Marathon.

Soon after Mr. Smith's settlement, Caleb Sheopard and David H. Monrose moved from the eastern part of the State and settled with their families on lot No. 22. Mr. Sheopard removed to Michigan about the year 1850. Mr. Monrose remained on his farm and died in 1837.

William Smith, a native of Vermont, migrated from Great Bend, Pa., to Freetown in the year 1802, and located on lot No. 25. He made several small purchases of land until he owned a farm of about 165 acres. He disposed of his property and removed to Cortlandville in 1835. He was a man of considerable prominence, held several town offices and military positions. He had a family of nine children.

In 1804 Gideon Chapin located on lot 42, where he erected the first saw-mill in the town. There is a mill on the same site at the present time, in which is one run of stone, which is operated by Mr. Underwood.

Samuel G. Hathaway settled in Freetown in 1805, having removed from Chenango county, where he had located two years earlier. He purchased 300 acres of land of Robert Smith, as before noted. At that time Mr. Hathaway's nearest neighbors on the north, east and west were four miles distant and eight miles on the south. In

1819 he removed to the eastern part of lot 71 in the town of Solon, in the history of which town will be found further reference to his eminent career as a public man. The following incident which he related to Mr. Goodwin, the historian, finds its proper place here: —

"Soon after the General came to Freetown he desired to make some additions to his stock of cattle, and learning that Caleb Sheopard, living near the salt road about five miles distant, had a calf to sell, he made arrangements to procure the animal. Having finished his day's work he started for Mr. Sheopard's near evening with a rope halter in his hand with which he intended to lead the calf, if successful in making the purchase; and thus equipped, without coat or stockings, he plodded on his course through the woods, by way of marked trees, there being no road. He succeeded in obtaining the calf and started for home; but night coming on, and it being much darker than he anticipated, and carelessly hurrying along with his treasure by his side, he soon found himself unable to distinguish the blazed trees, but still persevered, hoping to come out right. It was not long, however, before he found he was out of the right course and concluding that for the present he was lost, very calmly set about camping out for the night. He fastened the calf to a tree, and reposing by its side, was delighted through the long and dark night by the hooting of owls, howling of wolves, screaming of panthers, and other music of a like interesting character. At length morning dawned and as aurora flung her gorgeous rays over the dense forest, revealed to his eager gaze his position on the pine ridge, one or two miles out of his way. His calf was hastily detached from the tree and he again set out for home, which he reached at an early hour, having a sharp appetite for his breakfast, and much to the gratification of his anxiously waiting mother."

Another incident of early pioneer life in this town reaches us, which is worthy of preservation: In November, 1799, an old hunter was passing between the Tioughnioga river and Freetown Center, when, on ascending an elevation, he struck an Indian trail leading to the pine woods. Soon after entering upon the trail he heard a piercing scream, as if coming from a woman in distress. This was repeated and, as he quickened his pace, the sounds became more distinct and he could hear moaning as if a person was suffering pain. His anxiety was soon relieved, however, by seeing an enormous panther springing upon a deer that was struggling upon the ground and covered with blood. The hunter was unarmed and he hesitated a moment, undecided what to do; but concluded to hasten on, rather than run the risk of furnishing the panther with any part of the meal he was about to enjoy from the deer. He had not proceeded far before he was startled by what appeared to be the leaping of a panther behind him. As he had a few pounds of fresh venison, he picked up a heavy bludgeon and hurried on until he came to a large log, when he cut the venison into two or three pieces and throwing one into the mouth of the log, which was partly hollow, and the others a little distance from it, awaited the approach of the enraged beast. The moon was shining sufficiently to enable the hunter to see the panther approach and attempt to enter the log, when the hunter sprang forward and with one blow laid the animal almost powerless upon the ground. Repeating the blows, the huge beast was soon dispatched and the hunter took off his skin and retraced his steps homeward. A grand hunt was organized the following day, in which three panthers, five wolves and six bears were killed.

Eleazer Fuller was an early settler in Freetown, coming from Northampton, Mass.,

in 1806 and locating on lot No. 12, where he purchased one hundred acres. He had a family of four children; a daughter became the wife of Wm. Mantanye; his son, Austin Fuller, removed to Indiana, lived in Springfield and became auditor of that State.

Rockwell Wildman and Isaac Robertson came into the town in 1808, the former locating on lot No. 15. He died in 1855, leaving children on the homestead. The latter came from Connecticut and died in 1811, followed by his wife in 1815.

John Aker and Henry Gardner, the former from Albany county and the latter from Plainfield, N. Y., came to the town in 1809; they both settled on lot No. 32, where Mr. Gardner bought one hundred acres. He died in Illinois in 1858 at the age of eighty years. He was the father of seven children. About this time or a little later the settlers in the town received accessions in the persons of Charles and Curtiss Richardson, Wm. Tuthill, Jacob Hicks, Isaac Doty, John Backus and Aruna Eaton. Such were the hardy men who made the first impressions of civilization in the wilderness of Freetown. Gradually they cleared away the forest, opened and improved roads and prepared the region for the better enjoyment of those who were to come after them.

At the opening of the War of 1812 the town had become sufficiently settled so that neighbors could reach each other without a pilgrimage of half a day or more through the woods.

In 1812 John Conger migrated from Granville, Washington county, and located on lot No. 12, where he bought one hundred and five acres. The farm, with subsequent additions, is now owned by Ed. Warren. Mr. Conger was an enterprising and intelligent man and became a prominent citizen. He died at the age of fifty-five, in 1836. He had five sons and four daughters.

Harmon S. Conger was elected to Congress in 1846 and 1848 and held other positions of trust, wherein he earned a reputation for integrity and ability; the entire family was one of the utmost respectability.

In 1813 Austin Waters removed from Saybrook, Conn., and located on the same lot with Mr. Conger, where he also purchased one hundred and five acres, then entirely covered with forest. By years of persevering toil he cleared and improved his land and lived there until over eighty years of age.

Walton Sweetland, a native of Connecticut, came from Granville in 1814 and settled on lot 22, on what was afterward known as the Tripp farm. With his subsequent purchases he acquired a farm of one hundred and thirty acres. He devoted his attention to clearing and improving his land until 1838, when he sold it, and in 1846 engaged in mercantile business at Freetown Corners. He was a man of native ability and was elected to the offices of school inspector, superintendent, and justice of the peace, holding the latter position for twenty-eight years. In 1844 he was appointed associate judge, which office he held several years. He was also conspicuous in early military organizations, and rose from the office of corporal to major.

Geo. I. Wavle, from Montgomery county, N. Y., settled on lot No. 4 in 1814, where his widow now resides. He purchased there four hundred and fifty acres, was an industrious and reputable citizen, and died in 1835, leaving a respectable family of children.

Minor Grant, who was born in Chenango county, 1806, came to Freetown in 1824 and settled on one hundred acres of land, which he soon sold and removed to Cincinnatus. In three or four years he returned and has lived in the town ever since.

During the period of the early settlement of Freetown, it was generally regarded as somewhat sterile and subject to severe frosts; the crops were often cut down, which, with the rugged character of the surface, tended to retard rapid settlement. But the town is now one of the most prosperous dairy districts in the county. It is isolated from railroad communication with markets, but is well supplied with good roads over which numerous stage lines give direct connection with Cortland village and other important points. The log houses of the pioneers have given place to the comfortable and neat framed farm houses to be seen in all directions, indicating the general prosperity of the community.

In the War of the Rebellion this town responded to the calls of the country for men and means with the same degree of patriotism that characterized the other towns of the county. The following list embraces all those who enlisted in the town and received bounties: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid, $300. Total bounty, $3,900.— John B. Richards, Lafayette M. Torrance, Henry Seeber, Everett Vosburg, James H. Haight, Duane Hammond, James C. Tuttle, William J. Mantanye, Nelson W. Smith, Theron C. Guernsey, D. Webster Smith, George D. Watrous, James S. Hammond.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty paid, $1,000, except $700 to one. Total bounty, $13,700. Total brokerage, $350.— William A. Brink, Ezra C. Carter, John H. Cormick, Loren P. Copeland, Coleman Guernsey, Adolphus Hopkins, Austin Mantanye, Isaac M. Richardson, Clinton D. Stanton, Charles Tanner, Henry S. Tillinghast, Chauncey L. Judd, Dewitt P. Allen, William Hamburg.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Amount of bounty $600, except $500 to two. Total, $6,400. Brokerage, $15. — James J. Higgins, William H. Mitchell, William Lamgan, Bernard Derrigan, Charles Taylor, Edward Cowles, Arthur Hunt, Ahi W. Coltrane, John M. Creaton, Stephen Herdy, M. Shields.

Recapitulation.— Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February, 1864, and March, 1864, $3,900. Paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $14,050. Paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $2,215. Grand total, $20,165.

HAMLETS.

Freetown Corners is the largest hamlet in the town and contains about twenty-five houses and two churches. The first merchant in the town began business here; his name was Peter McVean. He continued only a short time and was succeeded by John M. and Sylvester M. Roe, who came from Virgil; they were in business here in 1834. At a later date Zachariah Squires was in business here eight or ten years and was succeeded by C. B. Perkins, and he in a short time by Walton Sweetland, who began in 1846, as already stated. He continued in trade many years. Samuel Pierce was afterward in business and was burned out, since which time there have been numerous changes, the more prominent proprietors having been John Hubbard, and at the present time Alphonso Dearman, who was formerly Mr. Hubbard's clerk for several years. Mr. Dearman is also postmaster in the place and clerk of the town.

Churches. — The First Baptist Church at Freetown Corners was organized in 1810, by Elder Caleb Sheopard, who first preached there. The first settled minister was Benjamin W. Capron. This was the first church in town.

The Presbyterian Church of Freetown bore the name of the original town of Cincinnatus until the year 1825. It was received under the care of the Presbytery of Onon-

daga September 1st, 1812, and on the division of that county, was assigned to the Presbytery of Cortland. The church seems to have always been small and feeble and to have had no regular pastor. It has been reported at times as statedly supplied and at other times as vacant. Rev. Eleazer Luce preached in 1833 and '34.

East Freetown — This hamlet contains a post-office and a church. At an early day a tavern was kept here by Geo. I. Wavle, in the house now occupied by Nancy Wavle. There is at the present time no hotel in the town.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at this place was erected in 1846 and is in the circuit of Freetown Corners. The building committee were A. Underwood, H. Orcutt, M. Grant, L. Peck, S. C. Coleman, W. Colwell and E. D. Fish. The early prominent members of the church, before the erection of the building, were Hamilton Orcutt and wife, Miner Grant and wife, Lyman Peck and wife, Elder Cameron and wife, Perry Gardner and wife, Joseph Gardner and wife, Sally Ripley, Russell Grant, Alanson Underwood and wife, Philander Underwood and wife, Alden Harrington and wife, Warren J. Scouten and wife, and some others, most of whom are now dead. The officers of the society at the present time are Turner Butman, John Butman, W. H. Colwell, D. M. Grant, Alanson Underwood and Stephen H. Ford. The membership of the church is about sixty.

There is a church society, few in membership, in the southeast part of the town, of the Methodist denomination. They erected a church building during the late war, the ground for which was donated by Calvin Eaton.

I. C. Beebe established a creamery near Texas Valley in 1870 and has carried on a successful business since. He has had a patronage of 425 cows at one period. The building is two stories high, one wing being 24 by 55 feet and the other 14 by 14.

The post-office at East Freetown has been kept by P. P. Grant since 1860. John King had the office in 1851 and is thought to have been the first postmaster.

The following is a list of the officers of this town: —

Supervisor — Marcus Borthwick.

Town clerk — Alphonso Dearman.

Justices of the peace — S. L. Woods, Nelson R. Moon, Daniel Bowdish.

Assessor — V. M. Grant.

Commissioner of highways — Horace Martin.

Collector — John S. Woods.

Overseers of the poor — William McKee, Ithemur Dunbar.

Inspectors of election — Clarence Tripp, Lawrence Caffrey.

Town auditors — Levi Smith, Bernard Caffrey.

Constables — John S. Woods, D. Colwell, James A. Wavle, Chas. Monroe and Orvil Picket.

CHAPTER XXX.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF TAYLOR.

THE town of Taylor lies near the center of the eastern border of the county and is bounded on the north by Cuyler; on the east by Chenango county; on the south by Cincinnatus, and on the west by Solon. As a civil organization it is comparatively recent, being formed from Solon on the 5th of December, 1849; it was named in honor of General Zachary Taylor and comprises 18,738$\frac{1}{2}\frac{7}{4}$ acres of land.

The surface of the town is very hilly and broken. The declivities are very steep, some of them precipitous and rising from 600 to 800 feet above the valleys. Mt. Roderick, which lies partly in this town and partly in Solon, is the highest point. The uplands of the town are, however, mostly arable while the valleys are rich and productive. The town as a whole is remarkably well adapted to grazing, and butter and cheese are the staple products.

A number of small streams flow through the town in a southerly direction, most of them emptying into the Otselic creek. Taylor pond is a small body of water in the central part of the town. The soil is largely a gravelly loam.

The first permanent settlement within the limits of Taylor was made by Ezra Rockwell and his sons, Ezra and Thomas. They came from Lenox, Mass., in the year 1793 and located on lot 78. Mr. Rockwell, sen., served in the Revolutionary army and for his services drew the lot on which the family located. In 1795 Thomas Rockwell removed to Cincinnatus and after a residence there of thirty-two years, returned to Taylor and located on lot 100, where he purchased six acres on which the village of Taylor now stands. He also purchased one hundred acres on lot 99. His house on lot 100 originally stood on the ground now covered by the public house, which was afterward owned by E. W. Fish. The building was burned in 1828.

Ezra Rockwell was a man of considerble prominence in the town, held several offices, among which was that of justice, which he creditably filled for a number of years. He was nearly ninety-six years old when he died.

The Beebe family were originally from Connecticut. Roderick located on Mt. Roderick, on lot 75, in the spring of 1794. He was a hardy, industrious man, capable of great endurance.

Orellana Beebe migrated from New Haven in 1796 and settled on lot 7, in Solon, now Truxton. After remaining there two years he removed to Taylor and settled on lot 100. He lived to the age of ninety. His youngest daughter became the wife of Ira Rockwell.

Increase M. Hooker located on lot 88, in 1797, but removed to Truxton the following year. He came from Vermont.

Lewis Hawley, from Huntington, Conn., located on the Howe farm in Pitcher, in 1805. He remained there but a brief period and then came to Taylor and settled on the farm now owned by Frank Wire. A few years later he removed to the West, or rather started for that region, but as he was traveling on the snow and it having suddenly disappeared, he was unable to proceed farther than Bath. The next fall he returned to Lisle, and the following spring to Taylor, locating on lot 78. He subsequently purchased one hundred acres on lot 77, where he died January 15th, 1858.

He was an active and prominent citizen and reared a family of children. Lewis T. went to Syracuse, where he became a prominent member of the community. James T. settled on lot 87, and Francis remained on the homestead; the latter being now dead. Hiram L. removed to Liverpool, Onondaga county, where he died. Cyrus M. removed to Chicago where he was a well known lawyer, and John H. went to Kansas.

John L. Boyd and John Phelps came to Taylor from Saratoga county. The former located on lot 98 in 1811, where he purchased 119 acres, to which he subsequently added 251 acres. The latter settled on lot 86, purchasing eighty-six acres, to which he afterwards added more than a hundred more. Mr. Phelps found the region about his farm heavily covered with timber, and such was the case with some portions of the town a number of years later.

In 1814 David Wire, who came originally from Connecticut, located on lot 100, where he reared a family of eleven children. His father was a native of England and had a somewhat thrilling experience. He was kidnaped in London when he was but seven years old and sold in Boston, where he remained until the beginning of the war between the French and the English. He was then impressed in the English service for a term of six years; he subsequently settled in Connecticut. When the War of the Revolution broke out he enlisted in the American army and served throughout that conflict.

The early pioneers of this town, in common with those of surrounding localities, suffered all the hardships and privations incident to life in the wilderness. They dwelt in simple log houses as a rule until long after the War of 1812. No mill was erected in the town until that year, previous to which the inhabitants had to pound their corn into a semblance of meal, or carry it a distance of from twenty to forty miles to have it ground. Money was very scarce, and the exchangeable produce of the clearings on the farms was barely sufficient, after the necessities of the family were supplied, to obtain the bare comforts of life. But the hardy and determined pioneers were generally equal to any lot that fell to them. Gradually their lands were cleared. Mills and shops came nearer, their farms brought them increased products, money became more plenty, the log cabins were displaced by more comfortable framed cottages and general prosperity attended the growing settlement.

Thaddeus S. Whitney came into Taylor from Delaware county, N. Y., in 1830. His father, David Whitney, was born in Norwalk, Conn., in 1775, and married Nancy Raymond, removing to Delaware county in 1805. He died in 1834. Thaddeus S. married Laura Rockwell, daughter of Thomas Rockwell, in 1832.

Newell Cole, a native of Rhode Island, came into the town before 1820, and located on the farm now owned by Mr. Welch. Besides being a farmer, he was a skillful mechanic, following his trade of carpenter for many years. He was, moreover, one of those pioneers who were unfortunate in getting an invalid title to their farms, and after making an ineffectual attempt to pay for his land a second time, was compelled to give it up. He died in 1864. His wife was Susan Potter, daughter of Chas. Potter, and was also from Rhode Island. Their daughter, Mrs. Edwin E. Hoag, now resides in Taylorville.

We cannot, in the space allotted, trace the growth of settlement farther towards the present time, the object being to preserve the names especially of those who conquered the wilderness and laid the foundations of the town's present prosperity.

There are but two hamlets in the town

of Taylor — Taylorville and Union Valley — although there is a post-office and some business done at Taylor Center. Taylorville is situated in the southeastern part of the town and contains one store, post-office, and about twenty-five houses, with two churches. Union Valley, in the northeastern part of the town, contains a church, a store, hotel and several shops, with a small collection of dwellings.

As a rule one of the first mechanics in a settlement was the blacksmith. His trade could be made of such varied use to the pioneers that he usually followed closely on the heels of the first settler in a new district. William Blackman was the first blacksmith to locate in Taylor; but just when or where he settled we have not learned. He was followed by Alexander Hart, who worked at the trade, in connection with gun-smithing, for a number of years. His shop was sold to Thaddeus S. Whitney, who changed it partly to a manufactory of edge tools, in which he did an extensive business during a period of more than twenty years, manufacturing axes principally.

Ambrose Allen was a blacksmith at Taylor for a time, and the shop is now owned by Philander Kingsbury.

Edwin E. Hoag owns a wagon and repair shop, which was formerly established by G. P. Swan many years ago, and was afterward owned by John D. Joyner. The first saw-mill in the town was built in 1812, by Thomas Rockwell. He sold it to a Mr. Isbell, after whose proprietorship it passed through the hands of Ezra Rockwell, Ira Wicks, Jonathan Brooks, Joseph Rice, and is now owned by Hiel Tanner, who has had possession of it for a number of years.

The grist-mill built at an early day by Messrs. Wells & Lord was the first one in the town. Hayes & Out owned it in 1881 when it was burned.

Mr. Durkee built the saw-mill at Taylor pond in 1830. It is now owned by Isaac H. Smith. A grist-mill was also built here by Potter Joslyn about the year 1860, but it has gone into disuse.

The first mercantile business in the town was done at Taylorville, by Hiram Rockwell. The store afterward passed into the hands of Eli Dickinson, Ezra Rockwell, and after a number of other changes was purchased by Albert West, under whose proprietorship it was burned in the winter of 1869. Edmund Potter rebuilt the structure and subsequently sold out to A. J. B. Norton. Following him the business was conducted by A. West, J. B. Kellogg, Kellogg & Clark, in 1880, who transferred it to William Comstock in 1884.

In Union Valley Messrs. Hulbert & Gilbert, and afterward Enos and Allen Hulbert, conducted a store and an ashery as early as 1830. They subsequently removed to Gilbertsville, and the property changed hands a number of times. E. Jipson had it in 1869, and it is now owned by Valentine Jipson.

In 1869 Isaac H. Smith did some trading at Taylor Center and took charge of the post-office which he still continues. There has been a little business done there since that time. J. I. V. Potter also kept a country grocery there.

In later years the attention of the farmers of Taylor has been given largely to dairying interests. The Hawley factory, which was built by Lewis Hawley in 1866, was the first of its kind in the town and is also the most extensive. The building was 108 by 20 feet; it received the patronage of 145 cows and has always had the reputation of manufacturing an excellent product. It is now owned by the widow of the original proprietor.

The cheese factory owned by William Brown has since been converted into a town

hall. It was built in the spring of 1868, but was not long used for its intended purpose.

The factory built by William Gorsline in 1866, a half mile from Union Valley, was sold to Calvin Warner, who in turn transferred it to the present owner, James Lake.

The first post-office in Taylor was opened at Taylorville in 1834, under the official charge of Ezra Rockwell; he continued in the office for fifteen successive years, and also had the office in 1856. He was succeeded by Edwin Potter and Orrin Leonard. G. W. Gage, the present postmaster, took the office in 1880. He is also clerk of the town and proprietor of a shoe shop.

As before stated, Isaac H. Smith is the postmaster at Taylor Center and Valentine Jipson at Union Valley. A daily mail from Cortland village reaches these places by stage.

The first tavern in the town was kept by Orlando Beebe, on lot 100, for many years. The first one in Taylorville was built by Leonard Holmes in 1842 and was kept as a public house until 1875, when it was burned. It was at different times owned by Levi Mallery, Levi Lock, Mr. Neal, Mr. Chatfield, E. W. Fish, M. Lock, George Thorpe, and probably others. Mr. Thorpe was its owner when it burned

The hotel in Union Valley was built before 1830, but was afterward used as a private house. P. Kingsbury kept tavern here for some years.

The first school teacher in the town was Barak Niles; he was a man of ability and was sent to the Assembly in 1825.

The first birth in the town was Hezekiah Beebe. The first marriage was that of Asaph Butler and Lucy Beebe. The first death that of Zerah Beebe in 1800.

Of the physicians of Taylor we find little to record. Dr. Ichabod Allen was one of the earliest and continued in practice many years. Dr. Jerome Angell, of Union Valley, is an old and skillful practitioner. He was vice-president of the County Medical Society in 1869.

The inhabitants of Taylor paid early attention to religious matters, and as soon as circumstances would admit, churches were organized and houses of worship built. Dr. Williston, a Congregational minister, first preached as a missionary in the town. Reuben Hurd was the first settled pastor, but when he began his labors is not now known. He was pastor of a church in Pitcher in 1813; but if there was a church at that time or later of this denomination in the town, it has long since closed its career.

The Wesleyan Methodists of Taylorville and vicinity erected a house of worship in 1835, but their organization has always been weak. The Rev. A. M. Blackman is now the pastor. Some members of this society and others joined in the formation of the Episcopal Church of this place a few years after the erection of the Wesleyan Church; but this organization is also small in numbers. The Rev. W. Robertson is the present pastor.

The Union Church at Union Valley is now used by the Methodist society, but has no pastor at the present time. The M. E. Church at Taylor Center was built in 1873.

The following table shows the names of the patriotic sons of this town who enlisted in the service of their country in the War of the Rebellion, under the different calls for troops, and were paid bounties, with the amount of the same: —

Call of October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864. Bounty paid $300. Total, $6,000. — James W. Smith, Benjamin J. Strong, Libeas H. Merry, Orlando Oliver, Hiram W. Perry, Oren Coon, Edson C. Rogers, Moses M. Whiting, Dudley W. Wier, Lewis Perry, William C. Young, James Mahoney, John W. Foster, Charles

Marsh, Henry Williams, John Farrell, James Vaughn, George Smith, Charles Hill, James P. Clark.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty $1,000, except $600 to two, $700 to one and $300 to two. Total, $23,100. Brokerage, $575. — Bartholomew Castle, Henry Harden, William S. Barnum, Leonard W. Wood, John T. Earl, Robert W. Brooks, Martin E. Chapin, Alfred E. Watrous, Austin A. Watrous, George W. Chapin, Egbert Peck, Henry E. Phelps, Enoch Rood, Nathan W. Sperry, Orson B. Torry, Melvin Wavle, Edgar Burlingham, Edmund Eaton, Charles A. Goodyear, William H. Oliver, Alanson Oliver, Harden Potter, Samuel C. Potter, Welcome J. Potter, Samuel Sluth, Joseph L. Cotton, Albert J. Wildman.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty, $600. Total, $6,600. Brokerage, $15. — John Ryan, John Grant, Thomas Fannon, Alexander H. Radford, Lewis Stanton, Joseph Thompson, Theophile Clouter, Thomas W. Ackerman, James Kierns, William Johnson, Charles Edwards.

Recapitulation.— Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $6,000. Paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $23,675. Paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $6,615. Grand total, $36,290.

The organization of the town of Taylor was perfected on the 5th of December, 1849, and the officers elected for the year 1850 were as follows: —

Supervisor — Sheldon Warner.

Town clerk — John R. Wire.

Superintendent of schools — Nelson L. Brooks.

Justices of the peace — Stephen Kellogg, Eli Wright, Stephen Skinner.

Assessors — Aaron W. Dunbar, S. Fuller.

Commissioners of highways — Hubbard Harrison, Horace Neville.

Collector — David Wire.

Constables — Perry Mudge, David Wire, 2d, Calvin M. Barber, Matthew W. Richmond.

Overseer of the poor — Israel Ellis.

Inspectors of election — Potter Joslyn, James Blanchard, Seth Hulbert.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks since the formation of the town, the supervisor's name occurring first in each year: —

Sheldon Warner, John M. Wire, 1851; Eli Wright, Horace Place, 1852; Thomas C. Wentworth, David Wire, 1853; Sheldon Warner, Orrin Leonard, 1854; Zadoc Short, Horace Neville, 1855; Leander Greene, Samuel B. Kenyon, 1856; Sheldon Warner, Orrin Leonard, 1857–58; Wm. C. Angell, Orrin Leonard, 1859–60; Irvin Phelps, Orrin Leonard, 1861–62; Edmund B. Heath, Edmund Potter, 1863; O. F. Forbes, Orrin Leonard, 1864; O. F. Forbes, D. W. Whitney, 1865; O. F. Forbes, G. W. Gage, 1866; Irvin W. Phelps, Francis Hawley, 1867; O. F. Forbes, Edwin E. Hoag, 1868; Irvin W. Phelps, Albert Clark, 1870; Irvin W. Phelps, Leander Brooks, 1871 to 1873, inclusive; Calvin P. Warner, Valentine Jipson, 1874; J. Lorenzo Cotton, J. B. Kellogg, 1875; J. Lorenzo Cotton, Jerome A. Norton, 1876; J. L. Cotton, Leander Brooks, 1877; J. L. Cotton, N. C. Rockwell, 1878 to 1880, inclusive; G. W. Gage, Albert Clark, 1881; Jerome Angell, Albert Clark, 1882; Albert Clark, G. W. Gage, 1883–84.

The present justices are Wm. B. Stetson, L. R. Serven, Valentine Jipson, Sterling A. Smith, George W. McDonald.

Assessors — L. Birdlebough, Thomas G. Brooks, Martin Wire.

Commissioner of highways — Almon W. Angell.

Overseers of the poor — Wm. G. Skinner, Burdett Skinner.

Constables — John C. Rogers, Ransom Halbert, Benjamin Wilcox, A. F. Potter, Harris C. Allen.

Collector — A. F. Potter.

Inspectors of election — Jefferson O. Hill, Rufus L. Cass, Leroy W. Finn.

CHAPTER XXXI.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF WILLET.

THE town of Willet lies in the southeast corner of the county and contains 15,839.19 acres, with an assessed valuation of $15.01 per acre, with an aggregate valuation of $248,135. The town is bounded on the north by Cincinnatus; on the east by Chenango county; on the south by Broome county, and on the west by Marathon.

The surface of the town consists mainly of the narrow valley of the Otselic river and the ridges which rise to a considerable height on either side. The uplands are broken by numerous narrow ravines through which flow small streams. A considerable portion of the town is still unsettled, and some of it is too rough and inaccessible for profitable cultivation. Bloody pond is a small sheet of water in the northwest part of the town. The soil consists of gravelly loam and shale.

Willet hamlet is situated a little north of the center of the town and consists of two churches, four stores, a hotel, two mills, several shops and about twenty dwellings.

Burlingame Mills, formerly a place of some note, now comprises a grist-mill and a carpenter's shop only. A store was formerly located here.

This town was formed from the southeastern corner of the old township of Cincinnatus, and was named in honor of Col. Marinus Willet, who acquired an honorable fame while second in command at Fort Stanwix, in 1777, and who made a gallant sally upon the forces of Sir John Johnston, capturing their stores and baggage. Col. Willet drew lot No. 88 of the old town of Cincinnatus; it was situated in the southeast quarter of the township and when the division was made, the military hero was honored with the application of his name to this new town, wherein he found the tract of land which was awarded him for his patriotic services.

Ebenezer Crittenden was one of the earliest settlers in the town of Willet, coming in in the year 1797. He had married at Binghamton and it is indicative of the determined character of the pioneers of the county, that he took his wife and one child, embarked with their little all in a frail boat or canoe and with the aid of oars and setting-pole, finally reached their destination in safety, with no other shelter than the blue dome of heaven, and exposed to whatever elements were destined to overtake them.

Arrived at his land, Mr. Crittenden cut some crotched sticks, set them upright, and with the further aid of some poles and their bed clothing, made a tent in which they lived until he could complete a sort of log house. This was constructed in the following manner: he cut sufficient logs for the sides and gable ends of the cabin, getting them small enough to enable him to handle them single-handed. These he laid up in the usual manner, and then set up two pairs of rafters, one at each end of the cabin. Reaching from one to the other of these

were placed a few poles, upon which he laid the rough shingles that he was able to split out with his axe, fastening them in their places with wooden pegs. In the absence of a grist-mill, he hollowed out the top of a stump, rigged up a spring pole, and thus made the family corn meal. His gun furnished the necessary meat and the Otselic his drink. So life was begun by the pioneers of Willet.

While this mode of living must be looked back upon from the present time as scarcely civilized, yet the families who thus began the work of subduing the wilderness undoubtedly found much to encourage and comfort them in their rude homes. There is almost nothing to record in the towns of Cortland county of deeds of blood by savages; the wild animals were such as brave men never feared to encounter, while peace and contentment, with the physical health that always attends such a life, all tended to render the life of the pioneer of this region one that was not all unblest.

The next settlements that we find to record in this town were made in the years 1806 and 1807, when Benjamin Wilson came in from Oxford, having originally migrated from Westchester county; John Fisher came from England; Jonathan Gazlay from Duchess county, and Thomas Leach from Madison county. Benjamin Wilson became one of the most prominent citizens of the town; the same may be said of several of his descendants who now reside in Willet. He was born on December 21st, 1764, and died August 20th, 1839. His wife was Phoebe Merritt. One of his daughters was Hetty Wilson, who was the mother of Wilson and Burrill Greene, who are now among the most prosperous farmers in the town. Hetty Wilson was born Jan. 21st, 1786, and married Benjamin T. Greene on the 17th of October, 1817. He was a native of Rhode Island and resided in this town from the date of his marriage until Sept. 15th, 1853, when he died at the age of seventy-one years. The children were Harriet, Burrill, Giles and Wilson. The former is the wife of Peter Eaton, of Willet. Giles Greene is a well-to-do farmer in Illinois.

Jabez Johnson came from Vermont, in the year 1807, and Phineas Sargent, whose native place is unknown, also came the same year. Ebenezer Andrews came in and located in 1808. He was from Massachusetts.

In the year 1809 Joseph Merritt, from Westchester, N. Y.; Solomon Smith, Daniel Roberts, from Madison county, John Covert from Windham, Greene county, William Greene, from Kent county, R. I., Ira Burlingame, from Oxford, Chenango county, N. Y., A. Burlingame, from Kent county, R. I., and Edward Nickerson, from Cape Cod, all came into the town and settled in various locations.

Arnold Thomas from North Kingston, Washington county, R. I., came to the town in 1810. Solomon Dodge, from Vermont, came to Oxford in 1811, where he remained but a short time, and then came to this town.

In the year 1816 Samuel Dyer, from North Kingston, R. I., with John and Perry Eaton, from Cherry Valley, Samuel and Abraham Canfield from Orange county, entered and located as pioneers.

In the year 1812, the first death in the town occurred, it being the wife of Solomon Smith, whose settlement we have chronicled. The first birth in the town was a child to Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Crittenden. The first marriage was that of Solomon Smith, which occurred in 1813.

The names given above embrace most or all of those who made the beginnings of civilization in this town and laid the foundations of its present advancement. Al-

though the town is rugged and hilly, there are many productive and valuable farms in it, among which may be mentioned those of Wilson Greene, Andrew Babcock, Burrill Greene, G. M. Landers, Peter Eaton, Frederick and Austin Mooney, Morris Delavan, Charles and Ogden Burlingame, Luman B. Morey, L. D. Meacham, and doubtless others.

No establishment is more needed by the pioneers of a wilderness than a grist-mill, and it is one of the first manufacturing enterprises started in such regions. It was only about ten years after Ebenezer Crittenden first pitched his improvised tent in Willet, when a grist-mill was built by Benjamin Wilson. It was finished in 1807 or 1808. He also erected a saw-mill, a carding works and a distillery. The grist-mill and saw-mill stood on opposite sides of the creek on lot 57, and were continued in operation for fifteen or twenty years. Mr. Wilson also established an ashery in the same locality. Goodwin says: "Wilson built his mills on the waters of the Otselic, in the north part of the town, as may well be proved by most of the learned judges, lawyers and wearied juries of the county; and of such importance had the building of those mills become in the legal movements of the human mind, that could they all be written down as were the acts of the apostles, they might well be called the 'books of uncertainty.'" Wilson's mill was the mill of the town during the first half of the century. His carding machine was operated until 1844 or 1845.

Mr. Wilson also erected a blacksmith shop as early as 1810 or 1811, and in 1808 he kept a public house. It will be correctly inferred that he was a very active and useful citizen; and he was rapidly building up a village, having also started a small store. But his property finally passed into the hands of a Mr. Adams, who seems not to have cared particularly about making a business center at this point, and allowed the budding industries to decline. He continued the distillery for a time, but it is said that his whisky was not of sufficient purity to give it a selling reputation and that industry also languished.

John Fisher built a saw-mill on the Otselic, in the southwestern part of the town, and about the same time Jabez Johnson built another on the outlet of Bloody pond, in the northwestern part of the town. Johnson also had a cloth-dressing establishment and a grist-mill, which is now known as the Burlingame mill and is owned by Wescott Burlingame. It is now the only grist-mill in the town.

Wilson Greene built a saw-mill in 1861, on the outlet of Bloody pond, which was operated until 1878, when it was abandoned. Daniel Edwards now owns one on the same stream, a little farther up.

This town, like many others in the county, is particularly well adapted to grazing; but it was not until 1882 that Julius Crittenden erected a cheese factory, which is now operated by his son, Frank. He is also proprietor of a cheese factory in the town of Cincinnatus.

Thus the town grew and prospered, the forests were gradually cleared away and the lands brought under a state of cultivation, until the year 1818, when the town was set off from Cincinnatus, as before stated. The first town meeting was held at the house of Benjamin Wilson, in 1819. Altitius Burlingame officiated as moderator, and William Throop as justice of the peace. The following officers were elected for the term of one year: —

Supervisor — William Throop.

Town clerk — Samuel Dyer.

Assessors — William Throop, John Eaton, Benjamin Greene.

Collector — Joseph Nickerson.

Overseers of the poor — Altitius Burlingame, Henry Sawdy.

Commissioners of highways — Benjamin T. Greene, John Briggs and John Eaton.

Commissioners of schools — John Briggs, Benjamin T. Greene, Abner Wilbur.

Constables — Joseph Nickerson, John Campbell.

Commissioners of lands — Benjamin T. Greene, Altitius Burlingame, Peter Eaton.

Inspectors of common schools — W. Throop, Orlando Salisbury, John Corbett, Anson T. Burt, Bicknell Freeman, Samuel Dyer.

Sealer of weights and measures — Altitius Burlingame.

An incident occurred in the town about this time which cast a gloom over the community. It is thus described by Goodwin:

"Arnold Thomas and his much-esteemed wife were drowned in the Otselic river, at or near the termination of the ox-bow. Mrs. Thomas was a sister of Altitius Burlingame. They were endeavoring to cross the river on an illy constructed raft, with a design to attend a prayer meeting. Miss Hannah Corpse, Nelly Miller and Mr. Burlingame were in company with the unfortunate couple. Mr. Burlingame, being an excellent swimmer, succeeded in saving himself and the two young ladies. The bodies of Mr. Thomas and his wife were recovered from the watery element and now repose in one grave, sacred to their memory, in Mr. Burlingame's orchard."

The first school-house was erected in the town in 1814, but it is not known who was the first teacher. The business center, as before intimated, was on lot 58, where it continued to be until the enterprising John S. Dyer came to the front and established a store where the village of Willet is now located. This was in the year 1834; in 1837 he started another store, and a third one in 1848. He also erected the tavern, which has since been considerably enlarged. Mr. Dyer afterward formed a partnership with Chauncey Bean, under the firm name of Dyer, Bean & Co.

Samuel Dyer, father of John S., was the first postmaster in Willet, in 1823.

The first store, established by John S. Dyer, is now conducted by C. P. McVean.

Samuel C. Dyer, successor to Elbert J. Dyer, is also a merchant in the village. The others now trading there are David A. Wiles, who carries on a general store, and Walter Forshee, who has a hardware establishment.

Henry Wiles, a native of Otsego county, born January 3d, 1805, first migrated to Cincinnatus with his father, Adam. In 1852 he removed to Willet, where he was in mercantile trade until his death in 1871. His son's store is now on the site of the former one which was burned in 1864. Rhoda M. Wiles, daughter of Henry, is the wife of Wilson Greene.

William Dellow came to Willet in 1857, bought a vacant lot and erected a shop in which he carried on the manufacture of furniture for sixteen years. At the same time Mr. Dellow began business, John S. Dyer, Geo. B. Morgan and Henry Wiles were the merchants in the place. Adam Seaber succeeded Morgan; then the firm was Seaber & Weld, then E. J. Dyer, and the store is now conducted by A. Dyer.[1]

The first hotel in the town was kept by Benjamin Wilson. The first in the village was kept by John S. Dyer, who continued in the business from 1832 to 1842. The property was then rented for a period of about twenty years, during which there were numerous changes, which need not be followed. In 1853 it was sold to Asa Canfield, who remained for a time, as did also

[1] It is the opinion of Wilson Greene that the first goods sold in the town were brought and sold by a traveling salesman, who opened them in a room in Samuel Dyer's house.

William Canfield. The hotel is now conducted by Frank Smith, who makes it a popular place

There are in the village a reasonable number of skillful mechanics. George Moses was probably the first blacksmith in the village. J. McMinn and Silas Leroy are now engaged in this business. Walter Forshee has a tin shop. William Gardner is the harness maker, and Joseph L. Hawley, shoemaker. Chas. Genson and Chas. Finn are the wagon-makers.

Churches — The Methodists have been earnestly engaged in religious work in this town since as early as 1815 or 1816. Their number has, however, always been small.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1821, and the Congregationalist in 1852. The latter had but few members and has been abandoned for some time. The Baptist Society continues, but with a limited membership.

Willet was not behind her sister towns in offering men and means to aid the government in putting down the Southern Rebellion. The quotas were filled under the different calls as shown by the following list : —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty, $300. Total, $3,900. —Freeman T. Willard, Silas Adams, Valentine Babcock, Oscar Seymour, John Potter, John E. Vosburgh, Frank Minter, Joseph Quick, Daniel Farmane, Charles L. Tarbox, Lyman Joyner, Patrick Condon, Edward Condon.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty, $1,000. Total, $22,000. Brokerage, $550 .— Robert Wilson, Charles R. Brown, Theodore H. Fitch, William B. R. Gritman, Abram S. Holland, William H. Jones, Everett S. Johnson, George M. Kinney, Uriah Loomis, George Loomis, Ephraim Loomis, Charles W. Robinson, George H. Slack, William A. Smith, Frederick A. Skillman, William Taylor, Myron Wooster, John A. Winchel, Roderick Wilber, Thomas Torry, James W. Ostrander, O. F. Pickney.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty, $600. Total, $1,800. Brokerage, $15. — S. Wetmore, William J. Hedge, William Martin.

Recapitulation.— Paid for filling quota, calls October 17th, 1863, February and March, 1864, $3,900. Paid for quotal call, July 18th, 1864, $22,550. Paid for filling quota, call December, 19th, 1864, $1,815. Grand total, $28,265.

We give below a list of the supervisors of Willet from the year 1834 to the present time: John S. Dyer, 1834 to 1839, inclusive ; Geo. Isaacs, 1840 ; W. A. Coe, 1841–42 ; Benjamin T. Green, 1843 ; Joseph P. West, 1844 ; Joseph Greene ; 1845-46 ; Stephen Adams, 1847 ; Silas Courtney, 1848 ; Lewis Mooney, 1849 ; Silas Courtney, 1850–51 ; John S. Dyer, 1852–53 ; Burrill Greene, 1854 ; John S. Dyer, 1855 ; John Miller, 1856 ; John S. Dyer, 1857–58 ; Wm. R. Coles, 1859 ; John D, Greene, 1860 ; Benjamin S. Coe, 1861–62 ; John S. Dyer, 1863 ; Benjamin S. Coe, 1864–65 ; O. C. Hall, 1866–67 ; E. F. Nichols, 1868 to 1870, inclusive ; Ogden Burlingame, 1871–72 ; Chas. D. Bowen, 1873 ; S. C. Dyer, 1874–75 ; O. Burlingame, 1876 ; W. Greene, 1877 to 1884, inclusive.

Following are the present officers of the town of Willet (1884) :—

Supervisor — Wilson Greene.

Town clerk — Joseph L. Hawley.

Justices — Jefferson Green, John D. Coe, Wm. E. Bailey, Geo. B. Landers.

Commissioner of highways—Geo. Talbot.

Assessors — Samuel C. Dyer, Almon Talbot, Wilber J. Delevan.

Overseer of the poor — Elijah Tennant.

Excise commissioners — Calvin Bliss, Milton Glovers, Marcellus Landers.

Game constable — Dayton Conrad.

Constables — Coriell Eaton, Miletus Hotchkiss, Jackson McMinn, Wm. C. Sternberg.

Collector — Coriell Eaton.

Inspectors of election — Horace Tiffany, Addison Whitmore, Adelbert Babcock.

CHAPTER XXXII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF HARFORD

THE town of Harford comprises the southwestern quarter of the original military township of Virgil, (No. 244) of the military tract, and is now the extreme southwestern town in the county. It is bounded on the north by Virgil; on the east by Lapeer; on the south by Tioga county and on the west by Tompkins county. The town was not organized until May 2d, 1845, and consequently much of its early history is identified with that of Virgil, in preceding pages.

The surface of the town consists of high broken and rugged uplands rising from 500 to 700 feet above the intervening valleys, and from 1500 to 1700 feet above tide water. The Owego hills in the central part of the town constitute the most elevated portion. The declivities are generally steep and often rocky, and most of the hilly summits are still crowned with heavy forests. The town is watered by small, clear brooks which are fed by springs, the largest stream being what is commonly called Owego creek, which runs southward through the central part of the town. The soil of the town is a sandy, gravelly loam, of moderate productive capacity and better adapted to grazing than to grain-raising.

Harford is, with one exception, the smallest town in the county, its acreage being but 519 more than that of Preble, which is the smallest town. Harford has 14,612 acres.

Settlement in this town was more backward than in most other sections of the county, and the clearing and improvement of the more remote and hilly portions proportionately retarded. Even at the present time lumbering is an industry of considerable importance to the town.

Dorastus De Wolf was the first settler in the town and located, in 1803, on a farm west of the village on the hill, now owned by Norton L. Brown. He subsequently moved into a small frame house which stood on the road north of the village near the corners. Putnam De Wolf, a brother of Dorastus, settled in the town not long afterward and near his brother.

The forests with which the town was then covered abounded in wild game. Wolves were very numerous and it was near the end of the first quarter of the century before the few settlers could leave their sheep unprotected at night, confident of finding them safe the next morning. The woods were traversed by numerous deer, which were often seen in droves; bears were plentiful and an occasional elk was seen in the secluded valleys.

Josiah Brown was one of the early settlers of Harford, coming in from Chenango county during the progress of the War of 1812. He settled a little north of Harford village on the farm where Homer Brown now lives, and which is owned by Dexter Brown, of Marathon. Morris Brown came in with his father, Josiah, and married Matilda Holden, daughter of Benjamin

Holden, who settled in the town at about the same time with Mr. Brown; he came from the State of Maine and located about a mile southwest of the village, on the farm now occupied by Solomon Rogers. Benjamin Holden was the grandfather of Samuel Holden, now a merchant in Harford. Luther Holden, another grandson, now owns the Heaton farm and lives there. After the marriage of Morris Brown and Matilda Holden, they settled on the farm where Mrs. Brown still lives, and where her husband died in March, 1883, about a mile north of the village; there they resided permanently for nearly seventy years.

Mrs. Brown's memory of early settlements in the town is still remarkably clear, and we are indebted to her for details of the progress of settlement at the date of her arrival, which was as early as 1815 and probably a year or two earlier.

Jacob Hemingway was then in the town and lived where the hotel now stands, which he built in about the year 1820.

Of the settlers who had followed De Wolf into the town before the year 1815, Mrs. Brown gives us the names and locations of the following: Josiah Hart, father of Josiah Hart, of Cortland village, settled on the place in the village now owned by Alanson Burlingame and built the old red house which still stands there.

Lemuel Barnes located on the Slaterville road about a mile west of the village. He was grandfather of George and Eli Barnes, who still live in the town.

Barney Norwood and George Cooley were both here before 1815. The former was the father of Philip Norwood and settled where he lived until recently, and the latter located in the village about opposite where the old hotel stands.

Calvin Totman settled on what was long known as "Chicken Point," where he kept the first store in town. It was a small affair and its existence has been forgotten by most of the old inhabitants. Philip Hardenburg is of the opinion that Totman sold goods in the village, or on the site of the village, for a short time before locating at "Chicken Point."

Levi Moore settled in the town early and lived where Mrs. Harriet Moore now resides; she is a widow of Levi's son. Levi Moore kept a tavern on this corner, which was the first on the site of the village and one of the earliest in the town.

Enoch Allen and Chas. Graves were in the town before 1815 and kept taverns, one on each side of the road near the site of the Nathan Heaton house. Allen shot himself subsequently in his own house.

Nathan Heaton settled on the site of Harford Mills before 1815 and built the grist-mill at that point before the year 1820. Warren Hart and Richard Collins were located here at the same time. The latter lived where Hiram Wilcox now resides. A saw-mill was built beside the grist-mill at Harford Mills about the same time that the grist-mill was erected; but we have not learned by whom. Colonel Hemingway built a saw-mill at Chicken Point at an early day and Tisdale Jones built another a little farther up the stream, while Josiah Hart built a third one still farther up. These mills were in operation as early as about 1844. They are all now abandoned.

Samuel Crosby settled before 1815 on what is known as the Beard place, which he owned and where he built a distillery not long after 1820. Another early distillery stood about on the site of the cheese factory, which was operated by Aaron Benedict. An ashery stood near it, which was managed by Theodore Hart.

Israel Graves and David Crosby were here before 1815. Graves lived at Chicken Point and Crosby where Robert Purvis now resides.

John Straight settled where Hallock Martin lives, a mile and a half from the village, before 1815. It is said that he owned three square miles of land at one time; but became a too steady patron of the distillery and finally lost all of his property.

Gordon Burlingame was an early settler on the farm now owned and occupied by his grandson, Allen W. Tyler, his father, Jeremiah Tyler, of Virgil Corners, having married Mr. Burlingame's daughter. The brick house now on the farm was built by Mr. Burlingame in 1828, the brick having been made on the farm near the barns. There were other brick yards in the town at an early day, which accounts for the number of substantial brick houses in different localities.

Lorenzo Totman, a brother of the first merchant, settled before 1815, about four miles east of the village on the road leading to Marathon. His father lived on that farm and must have been one of the earliest settlers.

Daniel Allen was in the town before 1815 and built one of the first grist-mills in the town, near where Sealef Jackson subsequently lived, about half a mile east of Harford Mills.

Stephen Cross settled in the town before 1815 and located on land now owned by John Valentine. He was from Chenango county. Mr Cross built the brick house now occupied by Mr. Valentine. His son, Marvin, now of Brooklyn, built the old wooden house now occupied by Otis Clark, and kept house there for the first time. He soon afterward moved to Brooklyn and has become wealthy in the lumber business. Guy Barnes, a son of Lemuel, before mentioned, was an early resident about half a mile west of Harford village, on the Slaterville road, where Spencer Seaman now lives. John Moss was another early settler in that vicinity.

Nathan Heaton, Theodore E. Hart, Levi Moore and Seth Stevens were among other early settlers in the town. The Graves family and the Crosbys came in about the year 1814.

Benjamin Holden, a native of Massachusetts, removed from the State of Maine to Harford in 1816, and located on land now owned by Milo Day. He died in 1842. His daughter, Betsey B., now the wife of Dexter Brown, of Marathon, was six months old when her parents left Massachusetts and three years old when they came to Harford. Dexter Brown was born in Harford in 1816, was married in 1839 and removed to Marathon in 1876. Until that time he resided constantly on the farm where he was born and which he still owns. His father, Josiah Brown, died in 1860, at the age of ninety-one years.

Henry Ballard was one of the comparatively early settlers and died in the town in 1853, having attained the great age of 109 years.

This town is more fortunate than some others in the county, which might otherwise, perhaps, have left it behind in matters of prosperity, in the fact of its having ample railroad communication over the Southern Central, with Auburn on the north, connecting with the New York Central, and Owego on the south, where it connects with the New York, Lake Erie and Western. In the year 1852 a company was organized under the name of the Lake Ontario, Auburn and New York Railroad Company, with a capital stock of $1,500,000.

A route running from Fair Haven on the north to Pugsley's Station on the south was established and much of the right of way secured. About $375,000 was spent on grading, when the company collapsed. In 1853 another company was organized and $450,000 was spent in grading between the lake and Weedsport. Operations on the

enterprise were suspended with the breaking out of the Rebellion, but in 1865 the company was reorganized and the route changed to its present course. The road was completed and trains began running in 1869, when the Owego valley through the town of Harford echoed with the shriek of the steam whistle. The inhabitants of the town fully appreciated the importance of this improvement and celebrated the event in a joyful manner. The railroad has been of vast benefit to the town and shipments of produce and lumber from the stations at Harford and Harford Mills have been large.

Ebenezer Burgess came from the State of Maine with the Brown family in 1813, and located east of the village, on lands now owned by Henry Wavle. In the following year, as stated by Erving Taintor, who is connected with the family by marriage, Mr. Burgess bought the apple trees and pear trees that are now standing on the old place. The trees were bought of John Straight (elsewhere alluded to), who then had a nursery.

Asel Sexton, father of Ransom Sexton, settled in 1814 on the premises now occupied by Miss Moore in Harford village. Ransom was born in 1813 and came to Harford Mills about twenty-five years ago.

The late Lansing Hay settled in Harford in December, 1826, locating on the farm now occupied by Henry Boyce. He was then twenty years old. Mr. Hay became one of the leading farmers of the town. One of his daughters is the wife of H. C. Gray of Harford Mills; another is the wife of Ransom Jennings; another lives at Harford Mills, and his son, L. E. Hay, is a merchant of Harford Mills.

Following is a list of the brave sons of Harford who went forth at the call of their country, with the amounts paid them as bounties, under the different calls of the government for troops: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid, $300. Total, $6,900.— James Hyde, Alexander Neff, Otis C. Clark, Isaac E. Keech, Squire Morton, Emery W. Smith, Prentis Elliott, Josephus Haskell, Manville P. Teed, Hallet Shepard, David Douglass, Samuel I. Hulslander, Joseph Neff, George W. Lason, Rutger B. Marsh, Miles R. Foster, Sylvester M. Foster, Taylor Maricle, Hugh Caton, Riley D. Sheppard, Cornelius Morrison, Halsey L. Leonard, Francis L. Sheppard.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty paid, $1,000, except $700 to one, and $500 to one. Total bounty, $14,200. Total brokerage, $465.— Gilbert James, Isaac Hultz, James Matterson, Alexander Ogden, Nelson Thompson, James Ryan, Thomas Ryan, Henry Adams, Erastus Babcock, Asahel Tillotson, Benjamin H. Decker, Alonzo Perry, William H. Tarbox, Robert P. Hopkins, Patrick Dunn, H. D. Goddard.

Call of December 19th, 1864. Bounty paid, $600, except $500 to one. Total, $5,300. Brokerage, $135. — Alexander Dalziel, Charles H. Chichester, Frederick J. Turner, John Gregory, Thomas Swift, George Silas, James Callaghan, Charles H. Bennett, Thomas Miller.

Recapitulation.— Paid for filling quotas, calls of October 17th, 1863, February, 1864, March, 1864, $6,900. Paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $14,575. Paid for filling quota, call December 19th, 1864, $5,435. Grand total, $26,910.

Following is a list of the supervisors and town clerks of Harford from its organization to the present time, with the exception of the year 1851, of which there is no record available. The name of the supervisor appears first in each instance: Josiah Hart, Oren M. Moore, 1846; Manson Burlingame, Oren M. Moore, 1847–48; David Davis, Oren M. Moore, 1849; A. F. Delavergne, Alfred A. Jones, 1850; Jo-

siah Rood, Wm. Lincoln, 1852; Josiah Rood, J. H. Knapp, 1853; J. H. Knapp, A. Burlingame, 1854; J. W. Rood, Jas. P. Smith, 1855; Erving Taintor, S. W. Nelson, 1856–57; J. J. Freer, S. W. Nelson, 1858; J. H. Knapp, James Heath, 1859; J. H. Knapp, Wm. Vorhees, 1860; S. W. Nelson, Daniel H. Miller, 1861–62; Robert Purvis, Homer J. Brown, 1863; Erving Taintor, Homer J. Brown, 1864; Erving Taintor, B. F. Jones, 1865; Erving Taintor, D. H. Miller, 1866–67; S. H. Steele, L. W. Tanner, 1868–69; S. H. Steele, H. J. Brown, 1870; S. H. Steele, L. W. Tanner, 1871; W. J. Baker, L. W. Tanner, 1872; S. H. Steele, M. S. Day, 1873–74; S. H. Steele, L. W. Tanner, 1875; S. H. Steele, A. W. Tyler, 1876; S. H. Steele, L. W. Tanner, 1877; S. H. Steele, B. F. Silsbee, 1878; S. H. Steele, J. C. Edmunds, 1879–80; A. W. Clinton, J. C. Edmunds, 1881; A. W. Clinton, H. T. Bushnell, 1882; H. C. Gray, G. A. Wavle, 1883; H. T. Bushnell, C. A. Sessions, 1884.

In 1849 David Davis, and in 1859, J. H. Knapp were appointed by the board, the vote being a tie.

The officers of the town of Harford for the year 1884 are as follows: —

Supervisor — H. T. Bushnell.

Town clerk — C. A. Sessions.

Justices of the peace — M. S. Day, E. J. Holdridge, A. W. Brown, R. Blodgett.

Assessors — A. W. Tyler, John McPherson, Sherman Morse.

Overseers of the poor — Philo A. Johnson, George R. Wilcox.

Collector — Willis Johnson.

Constables — Edwin Dawson, John C. Edmunds, Charles Lang, Smith Allen.

Inspectors of election — Henry D. Bristol, E. Phelps Corbin, Jerome Maricle.

Sealer of weights and measures — John K. Miller.

HARFORD VILLAGE.

The village of Harford is a pretty hamlet in the southwestern part of the town, and contains two churches, three stores, two hotels, several shops and about forty dwellings. It is situated towards the northern limits of what was known many years ago as "Virgil Flats." The first settlements on the site of the village have already been detailed, and it remains only to notice the business places, etc. It is said that Calvin Totman was the first merchant here, but removed his goods at a subsequent date to "Chicken Point." Theodore Hart began selling goods here before 1830, where the school-house now stands. Mr. Hart was the first postmaster in 1825–26, the village being then called Worthington. It was soon, however, changed to its present name. Henry Lyman succeeded Mr. Hart as a merchant, in the same building, for about two years, and failed. His place was taken by Royce & Stevens. This store was burned about the year 1849.

In the mean time Samuel Hart built the original store on the site now occupied by Holden & Bushnell. Hart was succeeded by Smith & Tyler, and they by Samuel R. Griffin about 1854. He died and his son-in-law, Samuel W. Winston, closed up the estate. The store stood empty for a time when it was leased in 1875 by H. T. Bushnell, who conducted it for three years. The building was then bought by Mr. Holden, who rebuilt and added to it. Mr. Bushnell, who had been away for one year, returned in 1880, since which time the firm has been doing a good business as Holden & Bushnell.

When Mr. Bushnell first came to Harford in 1872, he began mercantile business with J. C. Stewart, in the Southern Central building. They were succeeded by the present proprietors, R. J. Barnard & Son.

In 1878 the firm of Edmunds & Abels opened a meat market in the old Presbyterian conference room. After about a year Lyman Austin bought out Abels. The new firm continued there about two years when they added groceries to their business and removed to their present location in the old hotel. This store was formerly occupied by Tyler & Holden. Tyler's interest was subsequently purchased by L. C. Ball, about 1870. The partners divided the business in 1873, Mr. Holden going out; Johnson & Tyler continued together in that location until 1880.

Hotels. — The first hotel in the village was kept by Levi Moore, where the Widow Moore lives. Jacob Hemingway built the first installment of the old hotel now standing, about 1820. Orville Hart bought the house in 1838 and in turn sold it to a man named Bradley, who was also a tailor and worked at that business in a room of the house. A year or two later he sold to a Mr. McWhorter, who was succeeded about two years later by Samson & Terpening. The latter remained in the firm one year and Mr. Samson kept the house three years longer. Then Philip Hardenburg took the property (1856) and owned and managed the house until 1873, when he sold it to M. W. Hotchkiss. He sold it to James Joyner, who still keeps it.

In 1871, soon after the completion of the railroad, the brilliant anticipations of the inhabitants of Harford village as to the future of the place, led twenty-two of their number to form a stock company for the erection of a large hotel near the railroad station. This resulted in the building of the Southern Central House, a large and handsome three-story structure, costing more than $12,000. As is too often the case under such circumstances, the investment proved an unfortunate one. The house was opened by Chas. B. Ellis, but it has never proved a source of much profit, and has since changed hands several times, having been kept by C. Shafer, Capt. Signor, Fred Rainsford, M. W. Hotchkiss and now by John Stewart.

Blacksmiths. — Seneca Howard was the earliest blacksmith in the village of whom we have any information. He was here as early as 1830; his shop stood near the site of the present hotel barn. He was succeeded by Fay Royce, and he by M. B. Williams, who built his shop on the Burlingame place about the year 1842. Nathaniel Austin and Teal Hackett were in the business later. Wesley Main now carries on the business, and Frank Maricle occupies a shop built by Mr. Hardenburg. Chas. Leonard began in the business in 1880.

Warner Stratton was a wagon maker where Burt Sessions lives about the year 1842. Nathaniel Tompkins was located in that business soon afterward in the old two story building standing near the bridge. Abram Banker was in the same building later. George Guire and Frank Maricle are now engaged in the business.

Churches. — The old Union Church was erected in the year 1835 by all the Christians in the vicinity, the Universalists being prominent in the work. This was considered quite an event and most of the men in the community turned out to the "raising." The omnipresent whisky jug was there and circulated, as was the custom during that period at all similar undertakings. It is said that the late Lansing Hay mounted the top timber of the spire after the frame was up, swung the jug aloft and christened the building "The Union Church of Virgil Flats." The structure has since been rebuilt and passed into the control of the Presbyterian denomination, and later has become Congregational. The society has been weak for some years and there is no settled pastor at the present time.

The Methodist Church was built about the year 1858, and was rebuilt in 1882. Rev. Mr. Legg is pastor at the present time.

The first cheese factory was built on the site of the present factory about the year 1874, by D. B. Marsh. He operated it about two years when he failed and the factory was soon afterward burned. The new factory was built by Cornelius Schermerhorn some eight years since. He conducted it until 1884, when he sold it to John Blumers. It is now operated for the manufacture of several different kinds of fine cheese and first-class butter, which is sold in New York.

The first post-office was established at Harford in about the year 1826, under the name of "Worthington," which was subsequently changed to its present name. Theodore Hart was the first postmaster. Samuel Nelson had charge of the office for a long period, but in just what years we are not informed. He was succeeded by L. C. Ball and the office was taken in June, 1874, by Samuel L. Holden.

Physicians. — The names of Drs. Fox, Owen, Terry, Houghtaling, Davis and Shipman have been given us as among the early physicians of Harford. Dr. Terry was here in 1832. Dr. Ellis was in the town as early as 1820 and lived where Worden Tarbox now resides. These physicians practiced in the town during periods of different lengths, and were followed by Dr. J. H. Knapp. Dr. Knapp became a member of the County Medical Society in 1858, and was elected its president in 1861 and again in 1867. He is a man of more than ordinary prominence in the profession and has a large practice.

Dr. E. A. Allen is a graduate of the New York Eclectic Medical College in 1879, and came to Harford in 1880. He is a member of the Central New York Medical Association and practices in the homeopathic school.

The first school in the town was taught by Betsey Curran in the winter of 1806–07, in the house afterwards occupied by Abner Rounsville. The first school-house in the village of Harford was built probably as early as 1820 and stood near the site of the cheese factory; the next was located on the site of the present school-house, but has been rebuilt and otherwise greatly improved. An excellent school is now kept there.

The steam saw-mill of A. D. & I. D. Hemingway was built in 1867. It has since passed into possession of H. W. Bradley, who now owns it and runs it a part of the time. Since the forests have been mostly cleared away, such mills find less and less to feed them.

HARFORD MILLS

This is a hamlet situated about one and a half miles south of Harford village, on the line of the Southern Central Railroad, and contains two stores, a church, a hotel, a steam saw-mill, a grist-mill, several shops and about thirty dwellings. Settlements on the site of the hamlet were made a little later than in the vicinity of Harford village and at what was called "Chicken Point." A post-office was established here about the year 1866, with David Wilcox as postmaster; it was then called South Harford, but was subsequently given its present name.

Since the railroad was completed this has been a prominent shipping point for lumber, shingles, posts, etc., and the inhabitants shared to some extent the bright anticipations of their neighbors as to the future of the place, leading to the erection of the large hotel, the Owego Valley House, and other buildings which were, perhaps, beyond the demands of the place.

A grist-mill was built at Harford Mills

about 1820, by Nathan Heaton, which stood near the site of the present mill. The old mill was afterward used as a shed for the present mill, which was built by John C. Davis in 1841. It has since been rebuilt and improved at different times and changed hands a good many times; it is now owned by Simon Seaman and leased by the Myers brothers.

Another grist-mill was built previous to the erection of the Heaton mill, but the date of its completion is not available. It was built by a man named Clapp on Michigan creek, a little way from the corners of the east and west road. He made his dam by placing a log across the channel from the rocks on either side, driving down posts and then planked it up perpendicularly. The consequence of this mistaken engineering method was that the bottom of the dam swung outward with the pressure of the water above, and the dam hung like a gate to the log across the gulf. Clapp did not operate the mill after this calamity.

Simeon R. Griffin built the first steam saw-mill at Harford Mills near the corners of the road leading to Marathon, in 1861–62. He sold it to Perrigo & Fields about the year 1867; they operated it about four years, when it was transferred to Coots & Lytle. The latter ran it alone a year or two and failed. The assignee sold the property to R. W. Clinton, who moved it near to the railroad station and rebuilt it in 1874. It was burned down in 1880 and rebuilt in its present form.

In the same year that he erected the mill Mr. Clinton built the store building now occupied by Clintons & Chappuys. Clintons & Bristol, Clintons & Clark and Clintons & Elwell conducted the store before the present firm was formed.

The first store at Harford Mills was built by Charles Baker. The building is now occupied as a residence by the Widow Hazen. The store was kept there successively by Elisha Hart, P. L. Hardenburg, Mr. Burghart, W. J. Baker, who was there in 1870 and was closed up; Geo. Peters, who also closed out his business, and finally by Carrie Tarbox. No store has been open there for about seven years.

L. E. Hay began business in his present location in 1870, having erected the building. He has done a large business since that time in selling goods, buying and shipping produce, etc.

The hotel was built in 1870 by George W. Griggs. He was succeeded by Capt. Signor, John Hammond, Griggs & Kincaid, Kincaid alone, George Saltsman, O. M. Sears & Son and Henry Wavle, who is the present proprietor.

Solomon Smedley was one of the earliest blacksmiths at Harford Mills. A man named Rowley then began the business and Chauncey Crum opened a shop about forty years ago. He was located where Damon Miller has carried on the business for nearly thirty years. Chester Johnson also had the shop at that point for a time. Eron Hackett and Lewis Rood, with Mr. Miller, are the present blacksmiths.

Chas. W. Harrington is the first harness-maker in the place, having occupied his present location since 1865.

William Hammond is the present wagon maker and A. W. Brown does repairing in the same line.

The postmasters of the place since David Wilcox have been W. J. Baker, George Frank, A. W. Clinton and the present incumbent of the office, A. Clinton.

Churches. — Meetings have been held at Harford Mills since an early day, in private houses, school-houses, etc., by the Christian denomination and the Methodists. Among those who have ministered to the people have been Elders Wade, Edward Tyler, Fletcher and Austin Damon, who is the

present pastor. Methodist services have been conducted by ministers from Harford at different times. The handsome little church was built by a union of the Christians in the vicinity in 1872, chiefly under direction of H. C. Gray. The property had to be sold subsequently on a mortgage and was purchased by eight of the leading men of the place, who give the use of it for religious purposes.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF LAPEER.

THIS town embraces the southeastern corner of the original township of Virgil, and was not organized until the 2d of May, 1845. It lies upon the high ridges that rise west of the Tioughnioga river, and is upon the southern border of the county, just west of the center. It is bounded on the north by Virgil; on the east by Marathon; on the south by Broome and Tioga counties, and on the west by Harford.

The surface of the town is, for the most part, hilly and rugged. The declivities of the hills bordering upon the river are precipitous. Luce Hill, in the northwestern part of the town, is the highest point, rising from 1600 to 1700 feet above tide. The hills are laterally cut by narrow ravines worn by small streams. Fall creek runs through the town, and upon this stream, near the southern border of the town, is Hunt's falls, a beautiful cascade fifty or sixty feet in height. The soil of the town is a sandy, gravelly loam.

The first settlement in Lapeer was made by a colored man named Primus Grant; he purchased on lot 594, and settled on it in 1799. He was a native of Guinea, and the farm on which he lived long bore that name. He died there and was buried on one of the high bluffs which overlook the stream known as the Big brook. The Grant farm is now owned by Orlando Jennings.

Peter Gray, a native of Fishkill, Duchess county, was the first white settler in the town. He came from Ulster (Sullivan) county in July, 1802, and located on lot 70. His son, Ogden Gray, afterward lived on the farm, which is now occupied by a younger Peter Gray. He left a respectable family of children, the youngest of whom became the wife of Dan C. Squires; she is now dead.

In the year 1803 Seth Jennings settled on lot 597, where he remained until his death; he was from Connecticut. His son, Harry Jennings, lived in Harford where he died. Seth Jennings's sons were Rufus, Alfred and Harry. Rufus settled where Aaron Genung now lives, and Alfred where George Jennings lives. The Seth Jennings farm is now owned by D. D. Dye.

Dan C. Squires, one of the foremost citizens of this town, was born on the 23d of November, 1798. His father was John S. Squires, a native of Connecticut, who removed to Lapeer from Lisle, Broome county, and settled on lot 68, in 1807. Dan C. Squires acquired a good education in spite of his limited opportunities, which enabled him to fill many public offices and places of trust with signal ability. It is related of him that his youthful desire to obtain an education led him to lie on the hearthstone, often the entire night, studying by the fitful light of a pine knot, going to his arduous farm labors the next day. Mr.

Squires held the office of justice of the peace twenty-eight years; supervisor of the town fourteen years, and was chairman of the board six years; was superintendent of schools several years and school commissioner one term; justice of sessions three years and Member of Assembly in 1865 and 1872. Mr. Squires was a successful school teacher for some years, and the faith of his townspeople in his integrity often led to his being called upon to administer estates. He was instrumental in procuring the division of the town and in giving the name of Lapeer to the new organization. He served twenty-two years in the militia of the State, holding the offices of captain, lieutenant-colonel and colonel. In early life he interested himself in religious matters and was among the first to espouse the cause of temperance, while the anti-slavery movement found in him a courageous worker. James S. Squires, a prominent citizen of Cortland village, was a brother of Dan C. Squires.

Timothy Robertson, from Connecticut, came to Lapeer about 1803 or 1804, and lived for a short time with Seth Jennings. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was with Montgomery at the storming of Quebec. He had a son, Eliphalet Robertson, who made his home in Lapeer.

Thomas Kingsbury and Robert H. Wheeler settled in the southeast part of the town in 1804. The former was a Revolutionary soldier and drew a pension as such. One of his daughters married Marvin Balch. Kingsbury and Wheeler were both from Connecticut.

Simeon Luce located on lot 57, in 1805. It is believed that he kept the first tavern in the town. He was an ingenious mechanic and a useful citizen generally. He lived to a very old age and left a large family. Martin Luce, long a prominent resident of Virgil, was a son.

In 1806 Zachariah Squires and Robert Smith located on lot 70. The former was the father of Col. William Squires, afterward of Marathon. Mr. Smith was an officer in the Revolutionary army and was a pensioner.

James Richards settled on lot 79 in 1807, on the farm now owned by John P. Sessions.

Sixteen soldiers of the Revolution settled in Lapeer, all but one of whom died here. We have been able to obtain the names of all but two. They were Robert Smith, George Totman, Thomas Kingsbury, Stephen Kelly, Oliver Hopkins, William Parker, David Crowell, Nathan Smith, Henry Turk, Nathan Walker, Timothy Robertson, Samuel Soule, Asa Parker and James Pollard.

Asa Hunt, founder of Hunt's Corners, was a native of Windham, Windham county, Conn. When eighteen years of age he went to Boston, Mass., and in 1822 came on foot to Harford, locating on lot 41, where he remained until 1854, when he went to Marathon, where he now lives. His paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, whose heroic wife did her share in the great struggle by making gunpowder and casting bullets for her husband's use. He married Sallie Johnson, daughter of Abner Johnson, who settled on lot 89. Mr. Hunt has been engaged chiefly in agriculture, but has also carried on mercantile business in several different localities. He has been justice of the peace and supervisor. His son, Wm. E. Hunt, who resides on the homestead, has been a prominent citizen of the town; was elected supervisor in 1866, 1879 and 1881; has held the office of justice of the peace seventeen years and town clerk several terms.

An incident in the life of Mr. Hunt will bear relating. While a boy in Boston he worked for a man named Sigourney, and

by stringent economy saved the sum of five dollars, which he placed in the State Savings Bank of that city. Not long afterward he learned of the downfall of that institution. With shattered faith in monetary establishments he started for New York, without making any attempt to regain his deposit. Two years ago, in 1882, more than sixty years after this occurrence, he was surprised by a notification that the defunct bank was ready to settle his account, and he received a draft for $79.98. His unfortunate Boston experience had entirely escaped his memory. Mr. Hunt's father-in-law, Abner Johnson, died many years ago, from the effects of a slight cut on his hand.

Jesse Storrs was an early resident of this town, who subsequently became known as a great nursery man throughout a large part of the country. He was a school-teacher in his early life, and on a small property which he owned, turned his attention to the raising of fruit trees. He subsequently sold out and removed to Painesville, Ohio, where he was long the head of the nursery house of Storrs, Harrison & Co. He died a few years since.

It will be correctly inferred that a large proportion of the settlement in this town has been effected during a comparatively recent period. It is within the memory of living men and women, that the greater portion of the land was forest-covered, while the howl of the wolf and the panther's scream is not forgotten by them.[1] We have given a majority of the names and locations of the earlier pioneers, who, with their immediate successors and co-laborers, laid low the heavy forests and brought the land into a state of cultivation that places the town in a position that compares favorably with others in the county.

The first grist-mill in this town was erected by Simeon Luce, in 1827. Previous to that comparatively recent date, the inhabitants of Lapeer, like their brethren in surrounding towns at an early period, were compelled to go long distances in order to get the most imperative necessity of the table — corn meal — or else manufacture it themselves in the primitive way. We have not learned when this mill ceased operation, but there is now no grist-mill in the town.

In 1825 Samuel and John Gee built the first saw-mill; this was followed by a number of similar mills in different parts of the town where the brooks supplied sufficient water to run them. But the streams have all decreased in volume with the falling of the forests, and the water-mills have gradually been abandoned. The Gees were succeeded in their mill by Isaac Barrows; but it ceased operation long ago. Harry Jennings owned the last water-power saw-mill, which was burned many years since.

Sidney Pease built his steam saw-mill in 1874. He has in connection with it a feed-mill, a planer and matcher, and a cider-mill, doing a comparatively large business.

John Butterfield built a tannery just west of the Corners, which was subsequently purchased by Stephen Atwood and removed to and upon Spring brook, where it burned in 1883. It formerly did a good business, which, however, declined in later years.

Hunt & Kelly were the first merchants in the town of Lapeer, Mr. Hunt afterward running the business alone. In 1855 W. E. Hunt and Lewis Swift became the pro-

[1] A few rods to the south of the residence of H. Genung, was, at a former period, an Indian camping ground. This was on a bluff overlooking and close to the Big brook. From the banks of this stream flowed beautiful rivulets of cool, transparent water. Here, too, were immense forests of elms, basswood, maple and other timber, the favorite resort of the black bear, once so plenty in Cortland county. Deer, too, roamed the hills and valleys. The wolf and panther made night hideous with their discordant notes of revelry. From this camping ground the Indians daily radiated in quest of game and fish, and at night returned to their cabins loaded with peltry, the products of the chase.

prietors, continuing together until 1860, when the mercantile business at that point was abandoned.

The trading for the town during earlier years was done largely at Virgil Corners.

Asa Hunt kept the first and only tavern in the town, at Hunt's Corners; this was, however, scarcely a regular public house, but was opened hospitably to whoever happened to require such accommodations. He purchased of John Smith the farm adjoining his own and removed from his own log-house into the other, which was a framed structure and the second one of that description built in the town. This building was afterward moved to its present location, where it was occupied by William E. Hunt, a son of Asa Hunt. The house is now the property of Mrs. Betsey Ann Peck. It is worthy of remark that in all these years no death has ever occurred in this house. There is now no hotel in the town.

The first framed house in the town was built by Origen Roice, and is now owned by Philip Clark and used as a barn.

There are two cheese factories in the town. The one at Hunt's Corners was erected in 1875, by a stock company. There were twenty shares of stock of $100 each. The company was called the "Hunt's Corners Cheese and Butter Company," and the following were the original shareholders: O. S. Day, G. H. Brown, Wm. E. Hunt, E. D. Harris, John Tarble, A. B. Jennings, D. R. Jennings, Geo. W. Goodale, Philander Jennings, Talma Hill, H. H. J. Wattles, Asa Hunt, Seymour Hultz, John P. Sessions, S. S. Bliss, S. S. Houghtaling, Eugene Cleaveland.

The present owners of the factory are: Asa Hunt, W. E. Hunt, Geo. H. Littlewood, C. Day, John Tarble, W. Johnson, John P. Sessions, Geo. Goodale, Sally Cleaveland, Talma Hill. Mr. Littlewood is business manager of the factory for 1884 The product of the factory for 1883 was 47,329 pounds of cheese; this sold for $4,525.60.

The second cheese factory was built by E. D. Harris in 1877 and is now owned by Geo. Goodale.

Churches.— A church of Free or Open Communion Baptists was formed in the southeast part of this town about the year 1820, by Elder Lake, which embraced members from Marathon and Lisle. Their preachers were Elders Lake, Hart and Matthews. The society was at one period quite strong, numbering nearly eighty members. The Methodists also held frequent meetings in that part of the town and there was a church of the Christian order that held meetings in a school-house near the former residence of Dan C. Squires.

There is but one church edifice in the town; this is located at Hunt's Corners and is called the Union Church. It was built in 1868. The original trustees were Wm. E. Hunt, S. Day, H. J. Wattles, James W. Bliss, John Tarble, Willard E. Stockwell, D. W. Ensign. The building is now occupied mostly by Methodists. The present trustees are H. J. Wattles, Stephen Atwood, Miles Pollard, Wm. E. Hunt, Nelson Cleaveland, C. L. Day, Philip E. Clark.

Dr. Charles Thomas was the only physician who ever located in Lapeer. He became a member of the County Medical Society in 1848. He only remained here about two years, beginning in the year just mentioned.

Following is a list of the soldiers who enlisted from this town in the last war, under the calls of the president, and who were paid bounties for their services: —

Call of October 17th, 1863. Bounty paid $300. Total $2,400. — Edgar Freeman, Charles N. Eassley, Lewis Rood, Lynden Parker, Eli Parker, James M. Kells, Thomas B. Hopkins, Jerome W. Case.

Call of July 18th, 1864. Bounty paid $900; except $1,000 to one, and $600 to one. Total, $11,500. Brokerage, $325. — John Line, W. E. Stockwell, Furman Cook, David B. Runyan, Job Ayers, Webster Parker, Burdett Hammond, Levi Bliss, William W. Parker, Stephen Potter, Orin S. Day, James W. Parker, Peter Michaelson.

Recapitulation. — Paid for filling quotas, calls October 17th, 1863, Feburary, 1864, and March, 1864, $2,400. Paid for filling quota, call July 18th, 1864, $11,825. Grand total, $14,225.

Following are the present officers of the town of Lapeer (1884): —

Supervisor — S. B. Jemison.

Town clerk — J. L. Talbot.

Justices of the peace — Wm. E. Hunt, Leroy Smith, A. B. Johnson, A. A. Alvord.

Assessors — Mortimer Parker, Henry Hay, A. B. Jennings.

Constables — Egbert Peak, J. C. Gray.

Collector — Jason Gray.

Game constable — John Q. Talbot.

Inspectors of election — Fred Pollard, Fred Kinney.

Following is a list of the supervisors of Lapeer from the formation of the town to the present time, with the years of their service: —

Dan C. Squires, 1847; Asa Hunt, 1848–49; Noah Pollard, 1850; Ogden Gray, 1851; Royal Johnson, 1852; Elijah Freeman, 1853; Ogden Gray, 1854; Royal Johnson, 1855; Dan C. Squires, 1856; Elijah Freeman, 1857; Dan C. Squires, 1858; D. O. Surdam, 1859–60; Royal Johnson, 1861; D. O. Surdam, 1862 to 1865 inclusive; Dan C. Squires, 1866; D. O. Surdam, 1867; Dan C. Squires, 1868 to 1871, inclusive; Royal Johnson, 1872; Peter N. Gray, 1873; Walter L. Chaplin, 1874; Peter N. Gray, 1875; Wm. E. Hunt, 1876; Jerome Squires, 1877–78; Wm. E. Hunt, 1879; James Robinson, 1880; Wm. E. Hunt, 1881; F. J. Squires, 1882; Leroe Smith, 1883; S. B. Jemison, 1884.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HIRAM J. MESSENGER, second son of Nathan and Averick Messenger, was born on the east bank of the Tioughnioga river, near the State Bridge, in the town of Virgil, Cortland county, N. Y., on the 12th day of August, 1816. The family residence was a comfortable log house corresponding fairly with its neighbors. Owing to the necessity for his services on the small new farm, he was prevented from attending school in the log school-house after he was of sufficient age and size to be of use at home, consequently his school education was very limited, as was the case with most boys at that date. His father died in 1833, before Hiram was seventeen years of age, and it seemed to fall upon him to take the little sidehill farm of thirty-five acres, pay the debts, pay his elder brother and sister their interests and support his mother and younger sister. This he soon learned was a hard bargain, but he fulfilled it, and six years after, at the age of twenty-three, sold the farm and other property, and with $1,200 clear engaged in the mercantile business at East Virgil in company with William Gray, by the purchase of a half-interest; at the end of the first

year he became sole owner by purchase of the other half, and continued the business there on a much larger scale from 1839 to 1854, when he sold out his business at this place and also a branch store at Killawog and moved to Canandaigua, N. Y. There he engaged in the mercantile business with his brother-in-law, William Richardson. During his residence in Virgil he was constable for two years, justice of the peace for one term of four years, supervisor of the town one term, postmaster at East Virgil for several years and was the candidate of the Whig party for Member of Assembly in 1852, but was defeated by the temperance faction who put in nomination the venerable Dr. Miller, of Truxton, the result being the election of Dr. Patterson, of Homer, the candidate of the Democratic party.

On January 20th, 1842, Mr. Messenger married Luana L. Heaton (then but seventeen years of age), second daughter of the late Hon. Nathan Heaton, of Harford, who died in April of the previous year at his home, while on a visit to his family on a temporary leave of absence from the Legislature, of which he was then one of the honored members. This county was then entitled to two members, his colleague being the Hon. A. H. Mickle, of Homer. The fruits of this marriage are four children — one daughter, now a resident of Chicago, and three sons; of the latter, two are active members of the Chicago Board of Trade, and the youngest, a graduate of, and now teacher in, Cornell University. While a resident of Canandaigua, from 1854 to 1857, Mr. Messenger was principally engaged in mercantile business and as a cattle dealer. In 1857, soon after the financial panic and general bank suspension, he purchased a controlling interest in the Bank of Canandaigua, then owned by Mrs. Messenger's uncle, Theodore E. Hart, and William Antis. This bank suspended and closed its doors in August and remained closed until the day Mr. Messenger made the purchase, when it was promptly opened, to the great satisfaction of the citizens of the place, the first business being to promptly redeem and put in circulation $60,000 of the circulating notes of the bank, then held under protest by the New York Clearing House of the associated banks. In 1858 he sold out his interest in the mercantile business and in 1860 established the H. J. Messenger Bank, originally at Marathon, but moved it to Cortland the same year, taking up his residence there permanently at the same time. From 1860 to 1865 his success was very marked, and during these years he purchased the other half-interest in the Bank of Canandaigua, established the new Bank of Ontario at Canandaigua, the Bank of Canton, Canton, N. Y., the First National Bank of Geneva, N. Y., a banking office in New York and one at Herkimer, N. Y.; his bank circulation now being about $500,000, secured by $100,000 New York State stocks and $400,000 United States five-twenty six per cent. bonds, with deposits aggregating about three million dollars. In 1863 he was solicited to build what is now the Messenger House at Cortland, on the site of the old Eagle Tavern, which was burned in 1862. Accepting the invitation, in June, 1864, that house was formally opened, completely furnished for the accommodation of the traveling public. His attention was then directed to the necessity of a public hall and a plan was soon matured for the construction of Messenger (now Taylor) Hall, which was dedicated in February, 1866. On this occasion an address was delivered by the late Hon. Horatio Ballard, in which the following sentence appears:—

"In January, 1862, the 'Eagle Tavern' (a name cherished in memory by thousands of guests) was destroyed by fire. It was a calamity to our town and a loss to the public.

But there were agencies at work beyond the penetration of human imaginings which more than restored the loss. Just before the opening of our railway a citizen, then engaged in a limited mercantile trade in an adjoining town, removed to another county and entered upon a large field of action. He was successful. In the year 1860 he returned to this, his native county, endowed with a fortune and a public spirit. He was not slow in discovering the sure evidences of an advancing trade centering here. One of the first exhibitions of his good will and devotion to public interests was his unexpected announcement that if the site of the 'Old Eagle' was tendered to him he would cover it with a hotel unsurpassed in Central New York. The offer was accepted, and rising above the smouldering ashes was soon seen the stately pile, alike an ornament to the town and a boast to the county. But he did not stop there. He saw the business of the town demanded more room and he projected the erection of this block which lifts its majestic proportions to the sight and embraces this splendid hall in which we are now assembled. And for these edifices, grand in size, elegant in finish, useful in arrangement and durable in structure, we would here record our thanks and tender our gratitude to our noble citizen, Hiram J. Messenger. They are the monuments of his genius, his taste and his liberality. He has connected his memory with the best specimens of architecture, and the most superb styles of interior finish, as the exquisite work of this lofty hall fully attests. We will hold this place consecrated to this high purpose: to the cause of Liberty and Union; and the name of its generous founder we will ever cherish in grateful remembrance for that personal influence and munificence which he has so repeatedly and signally devoted to the prosperity of this town."

The erection of other buildings followed this in succession, among them being Masonic Hall Block, and comprising altogether the Messenger House, Messenger Hall, Masonic Hall, twelve stores and several other business places, all constructed within the short space of four years. The war closed in 1865 and depression followed. The government tax law of ten per cent. on every dollar of State bank circulation paid out took effect July 1st, 1866, and the half-million of State bank circulation owned by him and which was returning an annual income of forty thousand dollars was, of necessity, committed to the flames by the superintendent of the bank department as fast as it could be gathered up and sent to him, and the State stocks and government bonds becoming depreciated from four to thirty per cent. were sold on the market, aggregating a loss approximating $60,000. Other losses on mercantile and commercial paper aggregating some $150,000 followed, and after paying liabilities of over two and a half millions, he was obliged to suspend in May, 1868, with less than half a million of unpaid indebtedness, which was settled by bankruptcy proceedings of the *fashionable* kind. Since this occurrence Mr. Messenger has quietly pursued the real estate and fire insurance business in the town he helped to build up. In politics he was a Whig when and as long as that party had an existence. During the war he was actively and earnestly engaged with the late Hon. Henry S. Randall and Hon. Horatio Ballard in filling Cortland county's quota of soldiers. In religion he is a firm believer in the universal salvation of all and a warm supporter of the late Rev. Dr. E. H. Chapin.

JAMES WATTS STURTEVANT. The subject of this notice was born in Sangerfield, Oneida county, N. Y., on the 25th, of July, 1811, and died in Cortland August

9th, 1873. The earlier years of his life were passed at his parental home near Madison village, N. Y. His father was a well-to-do farmer and gave his son such opportunities as then existed in the vicinity for securing an education. His name was James Sturtevant. His children were Thomas Groves, Justin, Ornan, Abigail, Polly, James Watts, Willard, Betsey, and Demas. All of these with one exception were living at the time of James W.'s death; five of them are now deceased.

James W. Sturtevant began mercantile pursuits at an early time in his life, starting first as a traveling salesman in a small way. In this manner he accumulated considerable means with the view of opening a store as soon as practicable. Accordingly he came to Homer, N. Y., in the spring of 1834 and began trade under the firm name of Sturtevant, Stebbens & Co., associated with Kellogg & Son of Utica. This business connection continued for eight years, during which period Mr. Sturtevant acquired a reputation for general business integrity and enterprise. In 1842 they dissolved with Kellogg & Son, went to Auburn and continued the trade under the firm name of Sturtevant & Stebbens.

This connection continued three years when the firm dissolved and Mr. Sturtevant entered into partnership with Enoch H. Doud (fall of 1845), who came in the same year to Cortland village in quest of a business site. Mr. Sturtevant came in 1846, and what was then known as the old Pomeroy stand on Main street was secured, and there they continued in successful trade, under the firm name of J. W. Sturtevant & Co., until 1861, when Emmet A. Fish came in and the firm name became Sturtevant, Doud & Co., remaining thus until 1869. This firm was favorably known throughout the county and was one of the most successful and honorable in the history of Cortland. In 1869 Mr. Doud retired and his place was taken by Calvin P. Walrad, the firm name being changed to Sturtevant, Fish & Co., It remained thus until Feb., 1871, when Mr. Sturtevant retired. During the period covered by the existence of these firms the reputation and business of the house constantly grew in favor.

It was here in Cortland that Mr. Sturtevant met his future wife, Miss Sarah R. Freer, daughter of John A. Freer, an account of whose family appears in these pages; he was one of the prominent pioneers of the county. Mr. Sturtevant was married on the 24th of November, 1834. His widow still resides in the attractive homestead in Cortland village.

James W. Sturtevant was in all essential respects a business man and his mercantile affairs received the greater share of his attention and energy. Consequently he sought no opportunity to seek public office of any kind. He was a man of positive convictions on all current topics and well knew how to express them. But the following estimate of his character from the pen of an intimate acquaintance, written at the time of his death, more fitly fills this place than any eulogy we are capable of writing: —

"The death of the subject of this sketch comes home to me as a personal bereavement — for such it is, in the fullest sense of the term. Not only ties of kinship, but of friendship dating from my earliest recollection, tend to deepen and intensify my sorrow.

"Never have I met a man of greater native intellectual force, of more absolute independence of thought, of clearer or sounder judgment, of higher or purer moral convictions or principles. This may seem the partial judgment of one biased by friendship and relationship — but I know the same estimate was made by men of wide acquaint-

ance with mankind, and by those who knew best the quality and character of the man. Never did circumstances bring us together without giving me fresh cause to wonder at his exuberant intellectual energy, at the keen and original bent of his mind, at the extent, thoroughness and value of his reading, at his hearty hatred of shams and falsehoods, and the joyous vigor with which he took up the toils and cares of life. Forced by the hard necessities of poverty to forego, in his early years, the advantages of a liberal education, led by the same cause to devote the strength of his manhood to business, which he prosecuted long and with uniform success, he made up for himself, to a great extent, for his early deprivations, by a reading which was the wonder of all who knew him. His friends and intimates recognized in him a man who, under different circumstances, might have been a philosopher and a scholar — a leader in the intellectual world, as he was to them — for he had the broad and comprehensive intellect, the pure and artistic taste, and the vast capacity for labor which go to make up genius. The regret among all who knew him is keen that he has left behind him nothing by which those who knew him not could fairly estimate his powers and his worth. Never did I meet him without being led into fresh intellectual fields, which his active and restless mind had explored — never without fresh cause to admire the devotion which he always manifested for the truth for its own sake.

"The death of his only child, in infancy, twenty years ago, clouded with sadness the latter portion of his life. A sorrow which would have killed a man of less vigor, could such a man feel it as he did, did not make him for a moment misanthropic or morose.

"He died suddenly — without a moment's warning. 'His eye was not dimmed nor his natural force abated,' but, in the fullness of his strength, he passed at once, without the intervention of any period of sickness or suffering, from the company of friends into that of the loved who had gone before."

NATHAN SALISBURY. The earliest appearance of the Salisbury family in this country was about A. D. 1644. At this time, for political reasons and to avoid the confiscation of property, etc., during the contest between the Parliament and the unfortunate Charles I., John Salisbury and Edward Salisbury, his brother, sons of Henry Salisbury, esq., and younger brothers of Sir Thomas Salisbury, quietly got themselves away from Denbigh and emigrated to this country. The former settled at Swansea, Massachusetts, and the latter near Mount Hope, in Bristol, Rhode Island. Thomas Salisbury of Llanrust, Denbigh county, either came with them or followed soon after, and settled in Cranston. From family records and traditions, Thomas was supposed to be a brother of John and Edward, but it appears from English records that he was probably not a brother but cousin. John and Edward derived from Henry Salisbury, second son of John Salisbury, who became heir of Lleweni by reason of the death of his elder brother, Thomas, who suffered death Sept. 20th, 1586, for endeavoring to deliver Mary, Queen of Scots, from imprisonment.

Thomas, derived from Robert Salisbury, fourth son of Thomas Salisbury heir of Lleweni.

The branch of the family to which the subject of this sketch belongs derives from Thomas Salisbury, who settled in Cranston.

"The Salisbury family took its rise in Germany, and long before the conquest of England its head resided in Bavaria. The original name of the family was Guelph, and its leading member, Henry Guelph, was in

the year 1024 made Duke of Bavaria, by the Emperor Conrad the Second. The first duke had several sons the youngest of whom, Prince Adam, came over to England in the train of William of Normandy, in the year 1066. This young prince did not, however, come with William as a subject of his Norman dukedom, for he owed him no allegiance; but he came in the character of a soldier of fortune, and in that character took his part in the great battle of Hastings. For his services on that occasion he was rewarded by King William with a grant of an extensive tract of land in Richmondshire, running southward to the river Ribble in Lancashire, and it was in this place the younger branch of the royal family of Bavaria first settled in England.

"Adam Guelph soon dropped his German surname. He followed the Norman fashion of taking up the name of a particular place for a surname and thus became a de Saltzburg, or Adam of Saltzburg — Saltzburg being the name of the place in Bavaria from which he came. He settled upon his new possessions, built himself a home at no great distance from Preston, called it after his new name, and by that name, Salmsbury Court or Salebury Hall, it is known to this day.

Adam de Saltzburg was [illegible] as many of his descendants proudly suppose, a Norman, but a pure Saxon, having the same origin as the House of Saxony."

[illegible] Adam de Saltzburg's [illegible] but in the year 1162 his eldest son, Alexander de Saltzburg, had succeeded to the [illegible] possessions. Alexander died in 1181. He had two sons, Alexander and Henry. The [illegible] Lancashire property, and Henry [illegible] estate in Cheshire.

Nathan Salisbury was born at Cranston, Rhode Island, [illegible]. His paternal grandfather, whose name was [illegible], was Pierce, resided at Cranston at the time of his death.

The following were his children: Peleg, known as the "Big-mast of Warwick," Martin, Job, Mial, Nathan, Rebecca and Phoeba. Nathan, sen., the father of the subject of this sketch, was born Dec. 1st, 1751, and married May 16th, 1771, Abigail Stone — born Oct. 16th, 1753, only daughter of Dea. Joseph Stone, of Cranston, a descendant of Hugh Stone "*the stolen boy.*" Abigail Stone's mother's maiden name was Brown, a near relative of John Brown, the founder of Rhode Island College, afterwards Brown University.

Nathan Salisbury, sen., was Lieutenant under Capt. Burgess of the company which, from Warwick Neck, fired into, captured, and burned the British schooner, *Gaspe* in 1772. He resided in Cranston until 1795, when he moved to Providence, R. I. In March, 1803, he moved his family to Hartford, Washington county, New York, where he purchased a farm and remained until 1806, when he again moved his family to Cazenovia, Madison county, New York. At this place he only remained through the winter, and in March, 1807, came with his family to Homer, then in Onondaga county.

He purchased land and reared a log cabin on lot 5, located on the waters of Cold brook, where his family settled in the fall of the same year. Here he remained until his death, which occurred May 4th, 1817, [illegible] until Dec. 14th, 1836. The following were their eleven children: Waity, Sally, John, Joseph Martin, [illegible] Lucinda, Ambrose, Cynthia, Nathan, jun., and Phoeba. At the time of the families' settlement on Cold brook [illegible] pioneers had recently reared their log cabins [illegible]



Nathan Salisbury

shadows, deer and other game were abundant, and the cool streams swarmed with beautiful trout. Hence, it is not strange that young Nathan should sometimes have followed the deer trail, often with great success. In 1813 he was baptized by Rev. Alfred Bennett and received into the Baptist Church of Homer, subsequently removing his standing to the First Baptist Church of Scott, where a large and flourishing society existed for many years. Always interested in the welfare of the young, he has devoted much time to organizing and conducting Sabbath and singing schools. In 1815 he purchased a farm on lot 95 in the southeast corner of Scott, then an unbroken wilderness, which is the present site of Evergreen Terrace, the *Salisbury Home*. The next summer, 1816, known as the "cold season," he raised two acres of corn; and in 1818, was able to raise thirty acres of fine wheat. Thus, gradually the forest fell, and in its place waved fields of golden grain.

June 21st, 1818, he was married to Lucretia A. Babcock (born September 30th, 1792), daughter of James Babcock and Mary Gibbs, who emigrated from Blanford, Mass., to Scott, N. Y., in May, 1815. They reared the following nine children: Justin, Justus, James Henry, Samuel, John, Lucretia A., Adeline, Mary and Matilda.

The fire which Nathan Salisbury kindled upon the first hearthstone is still burning. Around it have clustered and been reared eight children — Amanda A., Charles B., James H., Milton L., Burdett J., Charlotte A., Wallace W. and Nathan, jun., all of whom are now living. Of these, James H. is a well known physician of Cleveland O., now of New York city. Wallace W. is a graduate of Albany Law University.

During a long life Nathan Salisbury has occupied various positions of honor and trust and enjoyed the respect of all who knew him. Possessed of good judgment and perseverance, his undertakings were successful. For many years he was engaged in breeding and handling sheep and cattle. As a floriculturist and horticulturist, he delights to adorn his home with the beautiful, and has devoted much time to the production of fine fruit, being the originator of several fine varieties of seedling pears.

As an agriculturist his fields are productive and his granaries seldom empty. Having a taste for the natural sciences, as an amateur geologist, he has collected and arranged at his home a cabinet of rocks, fossils and minerals, second to few private collections.

Resulting from an accident, his estimable wife died, much lamented, March 4th, 1881, in the eighty-ninth year of her age.

At this writing, Sept., 1884, he lacks but a month of being ninety-one years of age. For one who has seen the snows of so many winters, he has great vitality and still possesses his natural faculties in a remarkable degree.

EBENEZER MUDGE. — Among the prominent millers of Cortland county should be mentioned the name of Ebenezer Mudge. He came to Cortland village, then but a small hamlet, in 1839, with an already large experience in his business. He followed it until the year 1866, when he retired from active pursuits. His father, Abram Mudge, was a native of Otsego county, in this State, but subsequently removed into Montgomery county, where he operated a mill previous to his removal to Cortland. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812. After coming to this county he became the owner of the mills now operated by Thos. F. Brayton, in the eastern portion of Cortland village, which he continued to run for about eighteen years, when he retired from business. He was born in 1793

and died in 1869. He served the people of Cortland county several terms as supervisor, in which office he was often chosen on committees having charge of the most important interests of the public. In such positions his judgment and his integrity were always unquestioned. His family consisted of six children, four sons and two daughters; their names being Isaac, Ebenezer, Byron, Romeyn, Harriet and Elizabeth. Ebenezer is the only one who now resides in this county. The early years of his life were spent in the town of Charlestown, Montgomery county, where he was born on the 6th of April, 1816. His father soon afterward moved into the town of Canajoharie, in the little village of Ames, where he operated a mill, in which Ebenezer assisted during portions of each year, alternating his labor with attendance at district school, and later at the academy. When he came to Cortland he found the mill which he owned for so many years in a bad state of repair, doing but little business and the general prospect anything but attractive. But he went to work with energy, repaired the buildings, put the machinery in better order and gave his unremitting attention to his business. These improvements, with the excellent character of the product of his mill, soon had their expected effect and the business increased every succeeding year. Mr. Mudge remained in charge of this mill for a period of twenty eight years, during which time he made for himself a large circle of business acquaintances and friends, and gained a reputation for integrity and sterling character as enviable as it was deserved. He retired in 1866, having secured a handsome competence. He has never sought public office or distinction of any kind, being content with the successful prosecution of his own affairs and the respect of the community.

In 1837 Mr. Mudge was married to Miss Hannah C. Hodge. Four children were born of this union — Powers C. Mudge, now proprietor of the well-known grist-mill at Little York; Mary E. Mudge, now the wife of Charles W. Collins, of Cortland village; Charles Jay Mudge, who died in infancy; and Olivia L. Mudge, who died at the age of fourteen. Mrs. Mudge died in 1867. Mr. Mudge was again married to Harriet E. Phelps, daughter of Judge Henry J. Phelps, of Michigan.

ALFRED L. CHAMBERLAIN. The subject of this sketch is, probably, the oldest living citizen of Cortland county who was born in the village of Homer. He is a son of Deacon Charles Chamberlain, who came to Homer in 1801, purchased fifty acres of ground embracing the site of the village, and building his dwelling just back of the site of the Congregational Church. Of the land he had purchased he deeded six acres (Mr. Garrison, the former owner of the tract, doing likewise) for what is known as the village "green."

Mr. Chamberlain came from Dudley, Connecticut. He was a man of considerable education for those times, and a good deal of natural force of character; he taught school for a short time, was one of the first trustees of Cortland Academy, and in 1803 returned to Brimfield, Mass., where he married Miss Roxsey Lyon. During the following year their oldest son, the subject of this sketch, was born. In 1807 he removed to Summerhill, where he lived about eighteen years, when he returned to Cortland and purchased a farm on lot 54, in the village of Homer. Here he resided until his death, which occurred on the 6th of October, 1841, at the age of fifty-eight years. He was an active man, both in the community at large and in the church, filling several positions of trust and responsibility to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens. He was a super-

visor in Tompkins county several terms, and justice of the peace, and was deacon in the Presbyterian Church for many years. His wife died on the 26th of November, 1843, at the age of sixty years. Their children were Alfred L., Ormond, Charles V., Caroline, George W. and Mary. Charles became a prominent and wealthy merchant of South Carolina and was in that State during the late war. Caroline, Mrs. Hibbard, was a resident of Vincennes Ind., where her husband was also a merchant. She died the 18th of December, 1843.

Alfred L. Chamberlain, being the oldest of the children, performed much of the arduous farm labor in his early life, that naturally devolved upon him; but at the same time he made the best possible use of the opportunities given him for securing an education, and when he had reached a proper age, completed his studies by a course in the Cortland Academy, of which he was in later life a trustee. He was married on the 23d of April, 1834, to Miss Semantha Boies, daughter of Capt. Rufus Boies, who came from Blanford, Mass., with an ox team in the year 1812, and located on lot 54. His children were Dolly, Leverett, Semantha, Israel, William and Caroline. Israel Boies became a prominent citizen of Homer and was one of the foremost in securing the construction of the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad. William and Leverett went west, and Caroline is now the widow of the late Manly Hobart.

After Mr. Chamberlain's marriage he purchased the old Major Ballard farm, where he lived for thirteen years. He then purchased his present property of Caleb Cook, formerly owned by the Rev. Elnathan Walker. He has always been prominent in the agricultural interests of the county, devoting himself strictly to it and applying thorough-going business principles to the work. His success has been most gratifying in practical results. He has been a prominent member of the Cortland County Agricultural Society and was its president for several years. He early turned his attention to the breeding of Merino sheep, and finally sold his valuable flock to the late Hon. Henry S. Randall, thus starting that gentleman in this industry. He also engaged largely in raising Durham cattle, in which he was eminently successful and gained an extended reputation. He was for many years president of the Cemetery Association, and it is but simple justice to state that to his generous labor and unselfish interest is due much of the beauty of the Homer cemetery.

Mr. Chamberlain has always been a member of the Congregational Church Society and has lived in broad harmony with his professions. He is the father of Mrs. Grace Walrad, wife of Calvin P. Walrad, of Cortland village. He has had three other daughters, all of whom are dead. Although he is now nearly eighty years of age, Mr. Chamberlain still possesses remarkable vigor and energy of both body and mind, and is receiving the unqualified respect of all who know him.

SILAS BLANCHARD. The Blanchards of Cortland county are descended from a family consisting of three brothers who came from England to America some time in the 16th century. William Blanchard, of Windham Co., Conn., seems to have been the ancestor of those in this part of the State. His son Azariel was born June 13th, 1741, and was first married to Abigail Mason January 10th, 1764. He was thrice married, his second wife being Eunice Culver and his third, Thankful Peck. He was the grandfather of Silas Blanchard. Abigail Mason was born April 3d, 1741, and their son William was the father of Silas. He was born Nov. 13th, 1772, died Sept. 16th, 1854.

Silas Blanchard was born in the town of Cuyler on the 5th of June, 1814, and died at his home in Homer village July 10th, 1881. His father was Wm. Blanchard, as stated, and his mother was Hannah Whitmarsh, born Sept. 28th, 1775. She died Oct. 21st, 1844. They were married Feb. 22d, 1797, and migrated immediately thereafter to the town of Fabius, afterward Truxton and now Cuyler, locating on lot 66. Their immediate neighbors then were Christopher Whitney (lot 96), Nathaniel Potter, father of Mrs. Nathaniel Patrick (lot 57), Benjamin Brown (lot 47), Simon Keeney, Wm. Wallace and one or two families of the Websters and Foxes on lots 47 and 57.

Azariel Blanchard was a soldier in the War of the Revolution and was on duty in the vicinity of Lake Champlain. He was, probably, captain of a company, as he always bore that title. His wife died of smallpox; the children of William Blanchard were Asahel, born July 16th, 1798, died Aug. 8th, 1801; Daniel, born Dec. 29th, 1799; Asahel, born Aug. 31st, 1801; Harry, born Dec. 30th, 1803; Eliza, born Dec. 18th, 1806; Clarissa, born Dec. 7th, 1808; William W., born Sept. 25th, 1810; died March 13th, 1831; Azariel Mason, born Aug. 5th, 1812; Silas, born June 5th, 1814; Levi, born May 21st, 1816; Lewis, born Aug. 4th, 1818, died July 4th, 1820; Lewis 2nd, born Oct. 21st, 1820.

Silas Blanchard spent his early life on his father's farm in Cuyler, attending school but a small portion of the time. By his natural aptness for study and his temperament, he became a good mathematician. He was married to Miss Elvira Wilson, daughter of Reynold Wilson, on the 31st of October, 1839. Mr. Wilson was a native of Windsor, Conn., and in February, 1817, removed with his wife (who was Chloe Mallery) to the town of Fabius, where he resided until his death on the 14th of September, 1835; his wife died Aug. 30th, 1843, aged sixty-two years. Mr. Wilson was prominent in the town, having been repeatedly elected to the office of supervisor and to other positions of trust. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had a family of eight children, Mrs. Blanchard being the eldest of the four now living.

Mr. Blanchard began his married life on a farm purchased of Henry and Seth Purinton, where he carried on dairying somewhat extensively. He soon became generally recognized as one of the leading citizens of his town, which fact is indicated by his election first, for two terms, as justice of the peace. In 1861 he was elected supervisor, which office he filled for five terms. In 1870 he was elected superintendent of the county alms-house, which position he filled until his death in 1881. He became a Christian believer in 1856 and ever after lived a life consistent with his faith.

As superintendent of the poor, Silas Blanchard was a model officer; always alert for securing the best interests of the county and the comfort, as far as posssible, of the unfortunates under his care. His peculiar fitness for this trust and his successful administration of the same, are shown by his repeated re-election to it. Previous to his removal to Cortland he had filled the office of supervisor, as stated, and to the best of satisfaction to his constituents. As a member of the board of education of the academy he was painstaking and earnest, and as a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was always mindful of the best interests of the society. As a man, a neighbor, he was greatly missed in all the ordinary relations of life. His funeral was attended very largely, including the academy board and the directors of the First National Bank who attended in a body.

Though a man of active labor in life and therefore recognized as of great worth to

the community, Mr. Blanchard was, nevertheless, quiet and unassuming and of few words. He acted rather than talked; his work was noiseless and hence all that he accomplished was not known to the world. He was not impulsive; slow to act until he knew he was right, when he became the embodiment of perseverance and quiet industry. His only child was Wilson Blanchard, born Aug. 3d, 1841; died Oct. 19th, 1842. His widow, Mrs. Elvira Blanchard, is still living, one of the honored and beloved members of society in Homer.

At a special meeting of the board of education of Homer Academy and Union School, held on Tuesday July 12th, 1881, in recognition of the death of Silas Blanchard, the following resolutions were unanimously passed by the board and ordered published:

"*Whereas*, The board of education of Homer Academy are deeply afflicted in the removal by death of our honored associate, Mr. Silas Blanchard, therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we hereby record our appreciation of the urbane, wise and faithful services of our brother during his long term of office upon this board.

"*Resolved*, That we hereby express our deep feeling of personal loss and bereavement in the death of one so efficient and trustworthy and so eminently courteous in all his relations with us.

"*Resolved*, That we hereby tender to the immediate family and friends of our departed colleague, our sincere sympathy in the sorrow that peculiarly rests upon them; assured as we are that their best consolation will come from the example and memory of him whom we mourn, and from the same truths and the same faith which shaped his life, gave him victory in death and ensured for him the eternal life of a Christian."

A similar series of resolutions were adopted by the trustees of the Methodist Church of Homer, but they need not be quoted here. They are simply an added testimony to the general worth in life and the loss felt in the death of Silas Blanchard.

A. W. GATES. The subject of this sketch is the grandson of Amos Gates and Susan Pike, natives of Massachusetts. His father was Davis Gates, who left Barnestown with his father in 1824, and came to Caroline, Tompkins county, N. Y. He was born Sept. 7th, 1803, and married Lucinda Bonney January 18th, 1827, the Rev. Alfred Bennett, of Homer, performing the ceremony. Lucinda Bonney was the daughter of Capt. Jethro Bonney and Lucinda Webster. Jethro Bonney was born in Litchfield Co., Conn., in 1771. He died of dropsy Nov. 10th, 1866, aged ninety-six years. At the age of fourteen, he removed to this State and settled in what is now Washington county, where he married Lucinda Webster Sept. 22d, 1791. In 1800 he, with his invalid wife, removed to Homer (now Cortland). His wife died in 1820. In 1787 Mr. Bonney entered the military service, being but sixteen years of age, and served twenty-five years, passing through the different official grades to a captaincy; he filled these offices with honor, and resigned just before the war of 1812. During this war he enlisted in a company of exempts, paying his own expenses, and received from the governor a second captain's commission. In this veteran band he did valiant service. He lived to the age of ninety-six and died in the village of Cortland. Lucinda Webster was a daughter of Oliver Webster (uncle to Daniel Webster) and Patience Wright, both of Massachusetts, and Daniel Webster was a double cousin of Silas Wright, governor of the State of New York in early years.

Lucinda Bonney was a native of St. Albans, Vt., and was born November 13th, 1803, and is at present living in vigorous health at Lyons, Clinton county, Iowa. Davis Gates and Lucinda Bonney were married in the old log house on lot 51, in the town of Cortlandville. This house and

lot of fifty acres was then owned by her brother.

During the year following the marriage of Lucinda Bonney and Davis Gates the family made three removals, returning to Caroline, Tompkins county, where Alonzo W. Gates was born Feb. 5th, 1829. In 1830 they removed to Clarance, Erie county, where Jethro Gates was born, Oct. 28th of that year. During their stay in Erie county Mr. Gates purchased the property belonging to his wife's brother in Cortlandville and came back in 1834 to the house in which they were married, and where Berintha was born Sept. 17th, 1835, and Olive Mary July 7th, 1837.

On this farm of fifty acres the earlier years of Alonzo W. Gates were spent in aiding to clear and till the land and to perform other severe labor incident to pioneer life. When seventeen years old he assisted his father in building the frame house which still stands on the site; this was his first experience as a carpenter. In this vocation he was well known to the community of former years. His leisure hours and a portion of each winter he devoted to study, and to such good purpose that he fitted himself for the academy, which he entered when nineteen years of age, and where he qualified himself for teaching. This profession he followed for several years in the schools of Homer and Cortland, becoming eminently successful. He was fitted for this work not only by education, but by nature, being able to enter into sympathy with those under him and awaken in them a desire to learn. This is the first and important step towards securing an education. His labors as an educator brought him in due time a fitting reward; he having received a State teacher's certificate on the 14th of November, 1860, from the Hon. H. H. Vandyck, State superintendent of public instruction. This honor was conferred at the instance of the Hon. Daniel E. Whitmore, now of Marathon, then county school superintendent, and whose knowledge of Mr. Gates warranted his bringing him to the proper notice of the State official.

In 1856 Mr. Gates removed to Knox county, Ill., settling and building a house in the village of Wataga, where he taught school for two years, when the death of his father occurred in 1858, and he returned to Cortland, bought out the other heirs to his father's estate and has since that time remained in this town. In his school work in Wataga Mr. Gates was also eminently successful. He began with forty pupils, but his fame as an educator soon spread over the surrounding country, and pupils from abroad increased his enrollment to a hundred and fifty. This increase necessitated an addition to the building and an assistant teacher, which were promptly granted him by his board.

In 1852 he was married to Miss Jerusha M. Carr, daughter of Wm. Carr and Ruie Underwood, of Freetown, in this county. Mr. Carr was a native of Rhode Island and when nineteen years old came to this State and subsequently settled on what is now lot 20 of the town of Freetown. This was in the year 1820. He became, through his characteristics of energy, combined with a nature of fine sensibility, and deep, thorough religious convictions, a man of prominence and the utmost respectability. He died in 1873, on the 17th of January, while in attendance at a debating society in his own neighborhood. He was an active, vigorous debater, and the same characteristics governed his conduct in other pursuits. He died suddenly after making an earnest effort in behalf of his Master. His wife Ruie was a sweet-spirited Christian woman, revered and loved by all who knew her.

Mrs. Gates has been to her husband a



ALONZO W. GATES.

helpmeet in the broadest meaning of the term. During their married life of thirty-two years, and especially so during their sixteen years' administration of the affairs of the County-house, beginning in 1864. Here she labored assiduously in caring for the wants of the unfortunates placed under her care and with a degree of success known only to those who have felt the gentle influence of her presence and kindness.

As we have said, Mr. Gates was first appointed superintendent of the Cortland county alms-house and farm in 1864, serving two years, and was re-appointed in 1868, from which date he held the office fourteen successive years, and was re-appointed, but owing to the ill health of his wife, declined the position. The length of this term and the unqualified satisfaction with which he performed the duties assigned him, speak eloquently of his fitness for responsible public or private station.

Mr. and Mrs. Gates have but one child, Althea Eudora Gates, now the wife of Taylor A. Gage, of Cortland village.

Mr. Gates has been a lifelong member of the church. While in Illinois he assisted in the organization of the First Methodist church of Wataga village, and was its first class-leader, and has long filled an official position in the church of this place. As superintendent of the poor, Mr. Gates has always been assiduous in his labors, painstaking in all his duties; he possesses a sympathetic heart that instinctively turns towards those unfortunates whose hopes in life have been blasted and need the kindness of a considerate overseer to ameliorate their unhappy condition; and it is gratifying to know that the people of Cortland county, in consideration of the fitness of Mr. and Mrs. Gates for this place, repeatedly re-elected him to the position.

Mr. Gates's principles were strongly anti-slavery for several years previous to the formation of the Republican party, and he was an active participant in the first Republican Convention of Cortland county, when that party was organized, and has been a supporter of its principles ever since. He has retired to a great extent from active business and lives to enjoy his home and the respect of all who know him.

CHARLES W. GAGE is a descendant of William Gage, of Albany, a relative of General William Gage of colonial days and the Revolutionary War, and one of three brothers who came to America in the earlier portion of that period. One of these brothers settled in Massachusetts, one in Albany, N. Y., and one in Madison county, N. Y. From William Gage, of Albany, descended Wesson Gage, father of the subject of his sketch. Wesson Gage was born in 1797 and was inured to the hardships of pioneer life, laboring on his father's farm. In 1813 he married Martha Miller. In 1815 he became a member of the Methodist Church and was an earnest worker in the cause until his death. In the year 1818 he received a license to exhort; in 1822 to preach, and in 1826 was ordained a regular minister of the gospel. His life in the ministry was replete with all that entered into the hardships of early Methodism, and before the 8th of March, 1831, he had preached at one hundred and ten funerals, and before his death, which occurred in August, 1847, he had officiated on similar occasions three hundred and ninety-nine times, besides performing a large number of baptisms. During his ministerial work he also carried on farming. His labors in the ministry were never for a stated salary, but were given to the cause without cost while he labored as a farmer for his means of living. He was an adept in the use of tools, was ingenious and possessed inventive genius

Many devices originated by him were afterward patented by others. As necessity arose in his own experience, joined with a desire to economize time and labor, it was natural for him to study out some means to the desired end. The results of such study were in several instances taken advantage of by others, who reaped substantial benefit therefrom. The revolving hay rake was one of his inventions and was used a long time before being finally patented by others. It was universally employed until recent years. This was only one of many practical devices of his, which entitle him to rank high as an early mechanic. He was born Feb. 7th, 1793, and died July 29th, 1847. His wife was born Jan. 20th, 1795. Their children were Ira, William M., David W., Jeremiah, Henry S., Irena, Lorena, Martha, Sidney V., Nancy, Charles W., Ruth M., Zephaniah, Hannah and Wesson, jr. But four of these are now living.

Charles W. Gage, the subject of this sketch, was born May 19th, 1833, in the town of Knox, Albany county, N. Y. In 1843, when ten years of age, his mother died, and when thirteen years old his father died leaving him to make his own way in the world. Being one of a very large family of children, there was but little patrimony for each, and necessity drove him to start out in life for himself. When sixteen years of age he began work for a farmer, who put him at chopping wood. The first day's work was well performed, but upon being sent into the timber the second day, to do a class of labor which he had been accustomed to perform by horse power, he was disgusted with the backward character of his employer's management, stuck his axe in a log and left without saying good-bye. Years after this occurrence his employer settled with Mr. Gage for his labor, as far as the principal of the debt was concerned.

Mr. Gage then went to Cleveland, Oswego county, N. Y., where he began work in the chair factory of Hitchcock & Son. He remained here one year and a half and by economy saved a little money, which he expended in the laudable work of securing more education, attending school in Albany county one year. He next sought and obtained work in a carriage shop at Bainbridge, N. Y. Here he became acquainted with his present wife. He subsequently worked for Geo. Pennoyer, in Greene, Chenango county, N. Y., for two years. On the 14th of March, 1854, he was married to Abigail Pearsall, daughter of Samuel Pearsall, a farmer of Chenango county. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Gage removed to Homer and began work for Raymond Smith, a carriage maker; but he soon gave rein to his inventive talent and devoted his energy to the patent business for several years. Some of the inventions of Mr. Gage made during this period are well known and extensively used. Among these we may mention Gage's butter-worker, Gage's churn, Gage's anti-rattling shaft coupling, and others.

In 1868 he first established what has developed into the immense business of which he is now the head. The beginning was comparatively small and was located in a shop improvised out of his barn. The first year he employed no help and manufactured 105 cutters, doing all the work himself. These were readily sold, and the second year he employed two hands, which force was rapidly augmented as the demand grew. Now he has ninety skilled workmen in his employ and his shops have been extended until they embrace several large buildings three and four stories in height; these stand as a significant exposition of of Mr. Gage's tireless energy and indomitable spirit.

When Mr. Gage first began this whole-

sale manufacture of cutters, the facilities for doing the work were of such a character that the cost of manufacture was from four to six times what it now is. This great reduction is due almost entirely to improvements in machinery invented by Mr. Gage. We cannot in this limited space mention but one of the more important, which is called the novel saw-mill. The scarcity of basswood and the necessity of producing cheaply first class thin lumber of large width, for dash-boards, were the causes which led to the invention of this machine, coupled with the waste suffered in being able to use only the "white" or sap wood of the logs for this purpose. The mill in question simply saws thin boards from the circumference of a log, exactly as one would unroll a carpet. The devices adopted to effect this wonderful work cannot be described here, but they are wonderful in ingenuity and yet simple in construction. This machine is controlled through patents by Mr. Gage and his son. Five of them are constantly running in their works.

Adelbert S. Gage, of the firm of Gage, Hitchcock & Co., is the son of Charles W., and possesses in a large degree the inventive genius of his father, while his excellent business qualifications render him an indispensable factor in the great business. The direct management of the manufactory devolves largely upon him. The native urbanity and courteous and affable disposition of both father and son serve them well in the daily contact with many employees, from whom they win not only good service, but respect and confidence.

Mr. Gage has four children, one son and three daughters. The son, Adelbert S., married, on the 11th of January, 1877, Miss Della Watrous; they have one son, Carl W. Of the daughters, Belle M. is the wife of Edwin C. Johnson, a farmer of Chenango county, and a banker; Carrie M. is the wife of Frank Bronson, a tobacconist of Cortland village; Franc D. is living at home.

Mr. Gage erected his handsome residence in Homer in 1882, on the site of his former dwelling, which was burned on the memorable cold morning of Feb. 2d, 1876. Mr. Gage is a gentleman of pleasant social qualities. His address is easy and unconventional, his manner affable and his general demeanor such as evinces a courteous regard for the rights and feelings of others. He has been a trustee of the village of Homer for three years, and is at the present time president of the Agricultural Society of Cortland county.

JAMES HENRY SALISBURY, B. N. S., A. M., M D., was born at "Evergreen Terrace," Scott, Cortland county, New York, October 13th, 1823, and was the second son of Nathan Salisbury and Lucretia A. Babcock, who were married June 21st, 1818. Nathan was born in Cranston, Rhode Island, October 10th, 1793, and his wife, in Blandford, Massachusetts, September 30th, 1792. Nathan is still living at "Evergreen Terrace" (November 28th, 1881), in his eighty-ninth year, and is yet vigorous mentally and physically. His wife died in her eighty-ninth year from an injury. Nathan Salisbury was the son of Nathan Salisbury, who was born December 1st, 1751, and married May, 16th, 1771, Abigail Stone (born October 16th, 1753), only daughter of Deacon Joseph Stone, of Cranston, Rhode Island, a descendant of Hugh Stone, "the stolen boy." Abigail Stone's mother's maiden name was Brown. She was a near relative of John Brown, the founder of Rhode Island College, afterwards Brown University. Nathan Salisbury was lieutenant of the company under Captain Burgess that from Warwick Neck fired into and captured the British frigare *Gaspe* a short time before the Revolutionary War.

The earliest appearance of the family in this country was in about 1644. At this time, for political reasons and to avoid the confiscation of property, etc., during the contest between the Parliament and the unfortunate Charles I, John Salisbury and Edward Salisbury, his brother, sons of Henry Salisbury, Esq., and younger brothers of Sir Thomas Salisbury, quietly got themselves away from Denbigh and emigrated to this country. The former settled at Swansea, Massachusetts, and the latter near Mount Hope, in Bristol, Rhode Island. Thomas Salisbury of Llanrwst, Denbigh county, either came with them or followed soon after, and settled in Cranston. From family records and traditions, Thomas was supposed to be a brother of John and Edward, but it appears from English records that he was probably not a brother, but a cousin. John and Edward derived from Henry Salisbury, second son of John Salisbury, who became heir of Lleweni by reason of the death of his elder brother, Thomas, who suffered death September 20th, 1586, for endeavoring to deliver Mary Queen of Scots, from imprisonment. Thomas derived from Robert Salisbury, fourth son of Thomas Salisbury, heir of Lleweni.

The branch of the family to which the subject of this sketch belongs derives from Thomas Salisbury, who settled in Cranston. "The Salisbury family took its rise in Germany, and long before the conquest of England its head resided in Bavaria. The original name of the family was Guelph, and its leading member, Henry Guelph, was in the year 1024 made Duke of Bavaria, by the emperor, Conrad the Second. The first duke had several sons, the youngest of whom, Prince Adam, came over to England in the train of William of Normandy, in the year 1066. This young prince did not, however, come with William as a subject of his Norman dukedom, for he owed him no allegiance; but he came in the character of a soldier of fortune, and in that character took his part in the great battle of Hastings. For his service on that occasion he was rewarded by King William with a grant of an extensive tract of land in Richmondshire, running southwards to the river Ribble in Lancashire, and it was in this place the younger branch of the royal family of Bavaria first settled in England.

"Adam Guelph soon dropped his German surname. He followed the Norman fashion of taking up the name of a particular place for a surname, aud thus became a de Saltzburg, or Adam of Saltzburg — Saltzburg being the name of the place in Bavaria from which he came. He settled upon his new possessions, built himself a home at no great distance from Preston, called it after his new name, and by that name — Salmesbury Court or Salebury Hall — it is known to this day. Adam de Saltzburg was not, as many of his descendants proudly supposed, a Norman, but a pure Saxon, having the same origin as the house of Saxony." The time of Adam de Saltzburg's death is uncertain, but in the year 1102 his eldest son, Alexander de Saltzburg, had succeeded to the father's vast possessions. Alexander died in 1153. He left two sons, Alexander and Henry. The eldest succeeded to the Lancashire property, and Henry to an estate in Cheshire.

The following curious document may be of interest. It is copied from Mr. Williams's *Records of Denbigh*:

"*Rand. Polme of Chester, Ald., Deputy to the Office of Armes.*

"To all xtian people to whom this present writing shall come to be scene or read, Greetinge, in our Lord God Everlastinge, — Know ye that whereas Mr Foulke Salisbury, one of



J. N. Williamson M.D.

the 24 alderman of the City of Chester, and also one of his Majesties Coroners for the said Citty is desirous to have a Certyficate of his descent, that the same may appear by good Testimony, for to remayne upon record for his future posterity, and also to cleare all doubtes and questions, that eather now are or hereafter may arise conserninge his progeny, hath requested vs his kinsmen, beinge descended of the same blood and familey, vnder our hands for to Certifie the truth thereof, by this our Testimoniall to w^ch^ his lawful request and desire wee have yealded, as Christian Charity byndeth vs thereunto, to declare and relate the same when and so often as wee be thereunto desired, Wherefore we do Certyfie that the said Mr. Foulke Salisbury was borne Evenighted in the County of Denbigh and was second sonne by birth, but now heyre, to Henry Salisbury of Evenighted aforesayd, in the County of Denbigh, Gent., lawfully begot ten of Margery his wife, dau. to Peirs Salisbury of Llanrayder, in the said County, Gent., w^ch^ sayd Henry dyed in Chester, 6th October 1637, beinge of great age; and was youngest sonne to Foulke Salisbury of Maes Kadarne in the sayd County Gent., lawfully begotten by Morvith his wife, daughter of Merideth Lloyd of Havodynos, in the County of Carnarvon, Esq., and the forsayd Foulke Salisbury was 3 sonne to Peirs Salisbury of Brachymbydd, or Ruge, in the County of Denbigh, Esquier, lawfully begotten by Margaret his first wife; daughter and heyre to Evan Ap Holl, Ap Rees of Ruge, in the said County, Esq^r^, and sayd Piers Salisbury was sonne and heyre to John Salisbury of Brachymbydd, in the County aforesayd. Esq^r^ lawfully begotten of Lowrey his wife: dau. and heyre to Robt. Ap Meredith Ap Tudyr Esq^r^ and the sayd John Salisbury was a younger sonne of Thomas Salisbury Hên of Lleweny in the County of Denbigh, Esq^r^ and brother to S^r^ Thomas Salisbury; who was Knighted at Blackheathfield, 1464, of whom is decended S^r^ Thomas Salisbury of Lleweny, baronett now livinge, both beinge lawfully begotten of the body of Ellen daughter to S^r^ John Done of Vtkington in the County of Chester Kt. and the said Tho: Salisbury Hên was sonne and heyre to Henry Salisbury of Lleweny, Esq^r^ lawfully begott of Agnes daughter and heyre of S^r^ John Curteys, Kt. and the said Henry was sonne and heyre to Rafe or Rawlyn Salisbury, sonne and heyre to William, sonne and heyre to Henry, sonne and heyre to S^r^ John, sonne and heyre to Thomas, sonne and heyre to Alexander, sonne and heyre to Adam Salisbury, all of whose Matches remayne to be seen in the severall pedigrees of the said famileys, from w^ch^ this lyne mentioned in this Certyficate was care-fully and diligently extracted, at the request of the sayd Foulke Salis bury, and for more verity hereof, wee have hereunto subscribed our names the 14th day of November 1638.

"THO. POWELL of Berkhead, baronett.
"JOHN CONWAY, Kt. de Botry Dan.
"THOMAS MYDDELTON, Kt. de Chirk.
"ROGER MOSTYN, Kt. de Mostyn.
"THOMAS MOSTYN, Kt. de Cilken.
"SIMON THELWALL de Placeward, Esq.
"WILLIAM WYNNE de Llanvayre, Esq.
"JOHN LLOYD de Llanryder, Esq.
"PETER EVANS of Northop, Esq.
"HUGH NANNY of Nanny, Esq.
"JOHN LLOYD of Ruedock, Esq.
"WILLIAM SALISBURY of Ruge, Esq.
"JOHN SALISBURY of Brachegrigh, Esq. [sonne.
"JOHN SALISBURY of Brachegrigh, Esq., his
"WILLIAM SALISBURY of Llanraydrer, Esq.
"WILLIAM THOMAS of Carnarvon, Esq.
"JOHN JEFFREYS of Royton, Esq.
"WILLIAM CONWAY of Perthekensey, Esq.
"EDWARD CONWAY of Sughton.
"HUGH PARRY of Chester, Doctor.
"ROULAND GRIFFITH of Carnarvon.
"JOHN POWELL of Llwynskotog.
"JENKIN CONWAY.
"JOHN LLOYD of Llanynys.
"FOULKE SALISBURY of Denbigh.
"THOMAS SALISBURY of Denbigh.
"JOHN THELWALL of Ruthen.
"GABRIELL GOODMAN of Ruthen.
"JOHN EATON of Lleeswood, Esq.
"THOMAS MOSTYN of Rhed, Esq.
"PIERS CONWAY of Ruthland, Esq.
"RIGH. PERRY of Combe, Esq.
"PETER WYNNE of Tythen, Esq.
"THOMAS SALISBURY of Ledbrooke, Esq.
"HUGH LLOYD of Foxhole, Esq.
"JARRATT EYTON of Eyton, Esq.
"EDWARD NORRIS of Speke, Esq."

James H., the subject of this sketch, received his early education at Homer Academy, Cortland county, New York, then presided over by the justly celebrated Professor Samuel Woolworth, who was for many years — up to his recent death — secretary of the board of regents of the University of the State of New York. He received the degree of Batchelor of Natural Sciences (B. N. S.) at the Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, in 1846, previous to which he had been appointed assistant under professor Ebenezer Emmons, in the chemical department of the Geological Survey of the State of New York, which place he filled till January 1st, 1849, when he was made principal, with his brother, Charles B., as assistant, until 1852.

Dr. Salisbury received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Albany Medical College in January, 1850, and that of Master of Arts from Union College, Schenectady, New York, in August, 1852. He was elected a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1848, and the same year was also made a member of the Albany Institute. In 1853 he was elected corresponding member of the Natural History Society of Montreal. In 1878 he was chosen president of the Institute of Micrology, a position he continues to hold. In 1857 he was elected member of the American Antiquarian Society, and in 1876 was made vice-president of the Western Reserve Historical Society. In 1879 he was elected a member of the Philosophical Society of Great Britain. In 1848 Dr. Salisbury received the prize gold medal from the Young Men's Association of Albany, for the best essay on the "Anatomy and Histology of Plants." In 1849 he won the prize of three hundred dollars, offered by the New York State Agricultural Society for the best essay on "The Chemical and Physiological Examinations of the Maize Plant, during the various stages of its growth." This made a work of over two hundred pages, and was published in the New York State Agricultural Reports for 1849, and subsequently copied entire in the State Agricultural Reports of Ohio. In 1851 and 1852 he gave two courses of lectures on "Elementary and applied Chemistry" in the New York State Normal School. He also conducted a series of experiments on different subjects, which were embodied in several papers read before the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1851, and were published in their transactions, and also in the *New York Journal of Medicine* of a later date.

While in charge of the State Laboratory of New York from 1849 to 1852, he was constantly engaged in chemical and medical investigations, the results of many of them being published in the Transactions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in State Geological and Agricultural Reports, and in the various scientific and medical journals of that period. In 1849 he began his studies in Microscopic Medicine, in which he has been so successful. He has persevered in these studies, with scarcely any intermission, ever since, devoting much of his time daily to microscopic investigations. In 1858 he began the study of Healthy and Unhealthy Alimentation, and the influence the latter has in producing the various chronic diseases that are supposed to be incurable. He has found by his long continued and persistent researches in this direction that consumption, Bright's disease, diabetes, mellitus, rheumatism, gout, nearly all abnormal growths, the various paralytic diseases — aside from those which are the result of injury — and nearly all cases of mental derangement and fatty disease of organs, arise from unhealthy feeding and drinking. He

was the pioneer in demonstrating that the various infectious and contagious diseases were produced by specific germs, each kind always producing its special disease. He began these investigations, connected with the various germ diseases, in 1849, and was vigorously criticised both in Europe and this country, up to 1865, when Professor Ernest Hallier, of Jena, Prussia, an able cryptogamic botanist, in reading his papers, became so interested that he began investigations in the same field, and in 1868 he wrote him with much enthusiasm that he had confirmed every investigation that he (Salisbury) had made and published, and if desired he would come on and join him in these interesting labors, he taking charge of the botanical and Dr. Salisbury the medical. Soon after this Pasteur, and then Huxley and Tyndall, became interested in this line of labor, and now no one doubts the truth of the so-called "Germ Theory" of disease.

Farther on will be given a list of the papers on the various germ diseases he has investigated, with the dates of publication. In 1860 he began a series of investigations to discover if possible where blood was made, and the office and offices it played in the organism. Strange as it may appear, no one up to this time had explored this field with any success. A large share of his time for two years was devoted to this work, all the microscopic work being conducted upon living, healthy animals, which were placed under the influence of chloroform, and kept there while the necessary dissections and microscopic examinations were going on. After a long, tedious, persistent and painstaking labor, during which several hundred animals had fallen a sacrifice to the work, the mystery was solved, and the great blood gland was found to be the *spleen*, and the smaller ones the mesenteric and lymphatic. These investigations were embodied in a paper, and published in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, Philadelphia, for April, 1866.

The extended labors of himself and brother, C. B. Salisbury, on the "Ancient Earth and Rock-writing" of this country, in connection with the earth and rock works of the ancient mound-builders, have been embodied in a large quarto volume with thirty-nine plates, which is in the hands of the American Antiquarian Society, and is only partially published.

The great labors of his life, comprising, as he claims, an explanation of the causes and successful treatment of nearly every chronic disease that is supposed to be incurable, are yet unpublished. In January, 1864, Dr. Salisbury came to Cleveland to assist in starting "Charity Hospital Medical College." He gave to this institution two courses of lectures in 1864–65 and 1865–66 on physiology, histology, and the microscope in disease. From January, 1864, to the present time, he has been constantly engaged in treating chronic diseases — especially those which have hitherto been considered fatal, and his success in this field is widely known.

The following list of his published and unpublished works and papers will serve to give some idea of the extent and variety of his labors:

PUBLISHED WORKS AND PAPERS.

1. Analysis of Fruits, Vegetables and Grains. New York State Geological Reports. 1847–48–49.

2. *Prize Essay.* — Chemical Investigations of the Maize Plant in its various stages of growth, with the temperature of the soil at various depths, and that of trees in different seasons of the year. Two hundred and six pages. State Agricultural Reports of New York and Ohio. 1849.

3. Chemical Analysis of Five Varieties of the Cabbage. 1850.

4. Rheum rhaponticum. Chemical examination of the various parts of the plants. 1850.

5. Chemical Examination of Rumex Crispus. 1855.

6. Experiments and Observation on the Influence of Poisons and Medicinal Agents upon Plants. 1851

7. Chemical Examination of the Fruit of five varieties of Apples. 1850.

8. Chemical Investigations connected with the Tomato, the Fruit of the Egg Plant, and Pods of the Okra. 1851.

9. History, Culture, and Composition of Apium Gravolens and Cichorium intibus. 1851.

18. Some Facts and Remarks on the Indigestibility of Food. 1852.

11. Compositions of Grains, Vegetables and Fruits. Ohio State Agricultural Reports. 1861.

12. Microscopic Researches, resulting in the discovery of what appears to be the cause of the so-called "blight" in apple, pear, and quince trees, and the decay in their fruit; and the discovery of the cause of the so-called "Blister and Curl" in the leaves of peach trees; with some observations on the development of the peach fungus. Illustrated with six plates. Ohio State Agricultural Reports. 1863.

13. Chronic Diarrhœa and its Complications, or the diseases arising in armies from a too exclusive use of amylaceous food, with interesting matter relating to the diet and treatment of these abnormal conditions, and a new army ration proposed, with which this large class of diseases may be avoided. The Ohio Surgeon-General's Report for 1864.

14. Something about Cryptogams, Fermentations and Disease. St. Louis Medical Reporter. February, 1869.

15. Probable Source of the Steatorzoon folliculorum. St. Louis Medical Reporter. January, 1869.

16. Investigations, Chemical and Microscopical, resulting in what appears to be the discovery of a new function of the spleen and mesenteric and lymphatic glands. Do., August, 1867. Twenty-nine pages.

17. Defective Alimentation a Primary Cause of Disease. Do., March and April 1st and 15th, 1868. Seventy pages and two plates of illustrations.

18. On the cause of Intermittent and Remittent Fevers, with investigations which tend to prove that these affections are caused by certain species of palmellæ. American Journal of Medical Sciences, 1866. Also, in Revue Scientifique. November, 1869.

19. Some Experiments on Poisoning with the Vegetable Alkaloids. American Journal of Medical Sciences, October, 1862. Twenty-eight pages.

20. Discovery of Cholesterine and Seroline as secretions in health of the salivary, tear, mammary and sudorific glands; of the testis and ovary; of the kidneys in hepatic derangements; of mucous membranes when congested and inflamed, and the fluids of ascites and that of spina bifida. Do., April, 1863. Two plates. Seventeen pages.

21. Remarks on Fungi, with an accouut of experiments showing the influence of the fungi of wheat and rye straw on the human system, and some observations which point to them as the probable source of camp measles, and perhaps of measles generally. Do., July, 1862. One plate. Twenty pages.

22. Inoculating the Human System with Straw Fungi to protect it against the contagion of measles, with some additional observations relating to the influence of fungoid growths in producing disease, and in the fermentation and putrefaction of or-

ganic bodies. Do., October, 1862. Eight pages.

23. Parasitic Forms developed in Parent Epithelial Cells of the Urinary and Genital Organs, and in the Secretions. With 34 illustrations. Do., April, 1868.

24. Remarks on the Structure, Functions, and Classification of the Parent Gland Cells, with microscopic investigations relative to the causes of the several varieties of rheumatism, and directions for their treatment. One plate of illustrations. Do., October, 1867. Nineteen pages.

25. Microscopic Researches relating to the Histology and Minute Anatomy of the Spleen and Lacteal and Lymphatic Glands, showing their ultimate structure and their organic elements, of their highly interesting and important functions, with some remarks on the cause of ropiness of mucus and the tendency of all healthy and many diseased cells to be metamorphosed into filaments. One plate. Thirty-four pages. Do., April, 1866.

26. Description of two new Algoid Vegetations, one of which appears to be the specific cause of syphilis and the other of gonorrhœa. With 16 illustrations. Do., 1867. Also, Zeitschrift für Parasitenkunde. 1873.

27. Geological Report of the Millcreek Canal Coal Field. With 1 map and 2 plates. Published in Cincinnati, 1859.

28. Analysis, Organic and Inorganic, of the Cucumber. Cultivator. 1849.

29. Experiments on the Capillary Attractions of the Soil, explaining some important and interesting principles and phenomena in agriculture and geology. The American Polytechnic Journal. 1853.

30. A New Carbonic Acid Apparatus. Do., 1853.

31. Analysis of Dead Sea Water. 1854.

32. Two interesting Parasitic Diseases; one we take from sucking kittens, and the other from sucking puppies — trichosis felinus and trichosis caninus. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, June 4, 1868. Six illustrations. Also, Zeitschrift für Parasitenkunde, Hallier, Jena, 1875.

33. Pus and Infection. Boston Journal of Chemistry. January, 1878.

34. Microscopic Examinations of Blood and the Vegetations found in Variola, Vaccine, and Typhoid Fever. Sixty-six pages and 62 illustrations. Published by Moorhead, Bond & Co., New York. 1868.

35. Vegetations found in the Blood of Patients Suffering from Erysipelas. Hallier's Zeitschrift für Parasitenkunde. 1873. Eight illustrations.

36. Infusorial Catarrh and Asthma. Eighteen illustrations. Do., 1873.

37. Analysis, Organic and Inorganic, of the White Sugar Beet. The Albany Cultivator. October, 1851.

38. Analysis, Organic and Inorganic, of the Parsnip. New York State Agricultural Report. 1851.

39. Ancient Rock and Earth Writing and Inscriptions of the Mound Builders, with a description of their fortifications, enclosures, mounds, and other earth and rock works. Thirty-nine plates. In the hands of the American Antiquarian Society, and only partially published in their transactions and in the Ohio Centennial Report. 1863.

40. Influence of the Position of the Body upon the Heart's action. American Journal of Medical Science. 1865.

41. Material Application of Chemistry to Agriculture. Albany Cultivator. 1851.

42. Analysis, Organic and Inorganic, of the Several Kinds of Grains and Vegetables. The Albany Cultivator. August, 1849.

43. Drinks, Food, Bathing, Exercise, Clothing and Medical Treatment in Consumption. Virginia Medical Monthly. September, 1879.

44. Drinks, Food, Bathing, Exercise, Clothing and Medical Treatment in Bright's Disease. Virginia Medical Monthly. November, 1880.

45. Drinks, Food, Bathing, Exercise, Clothing and Medical Treatment in Diabetes Mellitus. Virginia Medical Monthly. 1880.

46. Diet Lists in Consumption, Bright's Disease, and Diabetes Mellitus. 1881.

UNPUBLISHED WORKS AND PAPERS.

1. Diphtheria, its cause and treatment. Three plates of illustrations. 1862.

2. Asthma, the various forms of, and their causes and treatment. Three plates of illustrations. Ready for press in 1866.

3. Consumption, its cause and treatment. Four plates. Ready for press in 1867.

4. Hog Cholera, its cause and prevention. 1858.

5. Ultimate Structure and Functions of the Liver. 1865. Three plates.

6. Ultimate Structure and Functions of the Kidneys. 1864. Two plates.

7. Geological Report of the Coal Fields of Virginia and Kentucky. 1857. With maps and many illustrations.

8. Histology of Plants. Prize essay. Sixty-five illustrations. 1848.

9. Causes and Treatment of Bright's Disease. 1865.

10. Causes and Treatment of Diabetes. 1864.

11. Causes and Treatment of Goitre, Cretinism, Ovarian Tumors, and other Colloid Diseases. 1863.

12. Causes and Treatment of Progressive Locomotor Ataxy. 1867.

13. Cause and Treatment of Fatty Diseases of the Heart, Liver, and Spleen. 1864.

14. Cause and Treatment of Paresis. 1865.

15. One of the most Common Causes of Paralysis, with treatment. 1867.

16. Microscopic Examinations Connected with Spermatozoa and Ova, with contents of pollen grains and modes of development of zoosporoid cells. 1860.

17. Cryptogamic Spores in the Tissues of the Living Animal. Their development in food one source of disease, and a cause of fermentation, gangrene, or death and decay in organized bodies. Seven plates and 102 illustrations.

18. Microscopic Investigations Connected with the Exudation and Expectoration of Angina Membranacæ and Gangrenosa and Scarlatina Anginosa, resulting in the discovery of the true source of and the pathological progress by which the exudations are produced; and the further discovery of a peculiar fungus belonging to the genus peronospora, developing in the sloughs and membranes, the spores of which are infectious and produce the disease; also some general conclusions on the etiology of fevers, the peculiar functions of the epithelial cell envelope, and the probable way in which the system receives a more or less permanent protective immunity by one attack of certain contagious diseases against a second invasion of the same. Three plates. One hundred and sixty illustrations. 1862.

19. Description of several new species of ascaridæ found on and in the human body, and a brief account of several new entozoa. Two plates and 30 figures. 1865.

20. Investigations Connected with the Cause and Treatment of Paralysis of the Will, Paralysis of the Memory, and Paralysis of the entire Intellectual and Moral Faculties, causing a peculiar mental state and insanity.

21. Uterine Fibroids, Ovarain Tumors, Cancers, and Fibrous Growths generally. Their treatment and cure by drinks and diet.



Yours truly

James S. Squires

He was married on the 26th of June, 1860, to Clara Brasee, daughter of Hon. John T. Brasee, of Lancaster, Ohio. She was born April 26th, 1839. They have the following children: Minnie B. Salisbury, born August 27th, 1866, and Trafford B. Salisbury, born January 22d, 1874.

JAMES S. SQUIRES, of Cortland, is descended from one of three brothers who emigrated from England in the earlier history of our country, and located at Saybrook, Connecticut. His grandfather, Samuel Stent Squires, was born in Saybrook in the early part of the eighteenth century and participated in the French and Indian War, particularly in the conflicts of Braddock's defeat and at Fort Du Quesne. He received his discharge at Perth Amboy, N. J., at the close of that war. He also served the full period of seven years in the Revolutionary War, entering into the spirit of those times and fighting as all others did, and sacrificing as many had to, for our liberty and independence. He married Margaret Cook, the mother of the father of our subject, John S. Squires. The latter was born in New Haven, Conn., in 1771, and removed to Farmington, Conn., in 1793, when twenty-two years old, and there married Huldah Hadsell. Her father, James Hadsell, was also a Revolutionary soldier, and his wife was a teacher who supported her family and seven children during those long years of anxiety and privation by teaching a common school. In 1800 John S. Squires moved to Choconut, Broome Co., where he remained one summer, removing thence to near Marathon, where he located just below the present village. His trip westward from his native town was made with an ox team and one horse. He crossed the Hudson on the ice and made his way to the State turnpike leading west at a time when there was no other road except a line of marked trees. He accomplished this trip in about three weeks.

In 1800 there was one saw-mill and one grist-mill only in the vicinity where Mr. Squires first located in Broome county. These were patronized after the Squires family removed to Marathon, the settlers generally going to and from the mills in frail and rudely constructed canoes or "dug-outs" up and down the Tioughnioga. There was a mill at Cayuga lake, twenty miles distant, but this was not so easily reached, the journey being overland.

The first house erected by Mr. Squires in Marathon and Virgil had no door save a blanket, and the only windows were openings covered with paper. The floor was made of planks or "puncheons" split from logs.

In 1807 John S. Squires moved to Virgil and took up four hundred acres of land, where he resided until his death June 24th, 1835.

He was a man of splendid physical proportions, weighing about two hundred and fifty pounds, active and energetic, and was thus able to accomplish much towards subduing the wilderness and bringing it under cultivation. He was lieutenant of a company of aged men which was organized in 1813 for frontier defense against Canada. Simeon West was captain and Wm. Powers ensign. Mr. Squires reared a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters. The daughters were all married and became mothers of families, and lived to be over sixty years old. The three oldest sons all died before they were twenty-one years old. John A., his fourth son, was a prominent resident of Iowa, where he died some years ago. Dann C. Squires, member of assembly in 1864, and again in 1874, and who was for thirty years justice of the peace and forty-four years district clerk, was the next son. He died in the old

homestead in what is now Lapeer, December 17th, 1874.

James S. Squires, the subject of this sketch, was the youngest member of the family, and was born in Virgil, Jan. 31st, 1819. His early life was spent on the farm, toiling early and late, going to school only on such days as he could not work out on account of inclement weather. His school privileges were therefore limited to a few days or weeks in winter of each year. His zeal for learning was great, and notwithstanding the difficulties in the way, he diligently pursued his studies at home, often stretching himself before the open fire-place in the evening and poring over his books by the light of the fire. When he reached the age of sixteen years his father died, leaving a large family of children, and James S. saw before him a life in which he must stand or fall by his own efforts. Accordingly in the following year he made preparations to start out into the world for himself. His mother was a devoted Christian woman from her girlhood, and changed her faith from Presbyterian to Baptist principles soon after her husband's death. She now, as her youngest son was about to leave her side, admonished and counseled him as to his future habits. She obtained from him promises that he would never use tobacco in any form; would abstain from intoxicating drinks; would never gamble in any way; would strictly observe the Sabbath day, and would in all things be guided by her Christian teaching and advice. These promises he has always tried faithfully to keep and they have, in his estimation, been the foundation stones upon which he has built up a successful career as a business man and gained the esteem and friendship of all his acquaintances. Following naturally upon the habits formed from those promises, came honesty, uprightness and a conscientious regard for the rights of his fellowmen. As a merchant he never permitted his clerks to misrepresent goods for the purpose of effecting a sale, and in all things endeavored to have them conform to his correct business methods; in short, he followed the only course through life upon which can be established a successful and justifiable record. When eighteen years old he attended school one full term, under the late Nathan Bouton, in Virgil, and made such rapid advancement that his teacher gave him a certificate to teach. In this occupation he afterwards learned more than he had been able to under his previous limited advantages.

But Mr. Squires was a born merchant, and this characteristic showed itself when he had reached only the age of ten years; he then purchased a quantity of top-onion seed of his brother at six cents a quart, which he sold among his neighbors during evenings at ten cents. In this way he made fifty cents, which he invested in a lamb, which he let for a term of years to double, and from the increase of this investment he found himself the possessor at the time of his first marriage, when he was twenty-four years old, of thirty-two sheep. Of these he sold twenty-five for $50, a profit of a dollar for each original penny invested. The other seven sheep were sold to a tailor and served to pay for cutting and making his wedding suit, himself furnishing the goods.

In the year 1843 Mr. Squires began mercantile business for himself in Virgil; but through endorsements for the accommodation of others, this venture failed, leaving him twenty-two hundred dollars in debt. Contrary to the advice of his friends and others he devoted his best energies to the payment of his heavy burden, which he accomplished within a few years. The wisdom of this course was shown when the people of the town made him postmaster

soon after the failure, and the next year superintendent of schools, which office he held while he remained in the town.

He subsequently (1853) removed to Cortland village, where he engaged in mercantile business of a general character and succeeded in building up an annual trade of about $100,000 a year. His store was known as the largest in the county at that time and the most successful, employing much of the time ten clerks, several of whom remained with him fifteen years and are now numbered among the foremost business men of Cortland and other places.

In 1869 Mr. Squires became president of the Bank of Cortland, which responsible position he filled with ability for fifteen years until 1884, when he resigned to devote all of his time to his personal business. He was prominently instrumental in securing the location of the State Normal School at Cortland, and has also done much to encourage the establishment of manufacturing interests in the place, contributing liberally of his own means to this purpose. He was made treasurer of the Ithaca and Cortland railroad and of the Utica, Chenango and Cortland railroad, which offices he has held until the present time. He gave liberally, also, to the fund for the erection of the Baptist Church in Cortland, of which he has for many years been a faithful and consistent member. He was elected trustee of the society in 1858 and has held the office ever since. He was appointed treasurer in 1860 and still holds that position. He has been one of the pulpit committee since 1861 and was elected deacon in 1875, still holding the office. In 1876 he was elected president of the board of trustees and now holds that office.

Mr. Squires built his handsome residence in Cortland on the corner of Tompkins and Prospect streets in 1871. It is one of the most attractive private dwellings in the village and has been greatly improved by the addition of conservatories, piazzas, etc. In 1876 he purchased the site of the Old Eagle store, built early in the century by General Roswell Randall, and erected thereon the handsome and valuable Squires building at a cost of about $40,000, containing seven stores, eight offices and ten flats.

Mr. Squires has been married three times, the first event occurring on December 24th, 1843, when he was united with Miss Lucia Chamberlain, formerly of Otsego county. She was born Feb. 5th, 1821, and died March 16th, 1862. She was a devoted and Christian wife and mother, and died strong in her faith in Jesus. The oldest child of this union was Lucia Verdine Squires, who was born Aug. 5th, 1847. She was married to Jerome R. Hathway in 1868, and died May 28th, 1877. The second child was Francesca Eudell Squires, born Dec. 6th, 1849; she is now the wife of Geo. W. Edgcomb, of Cortland. Two sons were born of this marriage also; the oldest is James Duane Squires, now a member of the law firm of Thornall, Squires & Constant, 120 Broadway, New York city. He was born in Cortlandville, Feb. 8th, 1855, attended school at the Cortlandville Academy and later at the Normal School, where he graduated at the age of sixteen. After teaching one season he took an extra course at the Rochester Collegiate Institute where he graduated and took the first prize for commencement oration.

In 1873 he entered the Rochester University where he graduated in 1877. After studying law a short time in Cortland he went to New York city and entered the office of Hon. Everett P. Wheeler as a student. He afterwards became a clerk in the office of Deane & Chamberlain, one of the largest real estate law firms in the city. He was admitted to the bar in May, 1881, and in May, 1882, was made a junior mem-

ber of the firm of Deane & Chamberlain. This firm dissolved in the early part of 1884, when he became a member of the law firm above mentioned.

The other son is Earl Frank Squires, born in Cortlandville Aug. 2d, 1857. He was educated at the Normal School, and afterwards engaged as clerk in the mercantile business and to some extent in farm work in his native town. In 1877 he became a member of the firm of Stoker & Co., grocers and provision dealers, which was very successful. In 1882 the firm of Squires & Co., was organized for the same business in Cortland, of which he is now the junior member. He was married to Miss Ophelia Evans, daughter of W. R. Evans, of Dallas, Texas, July 30th, 1879.

Mr. Squires' second marriage occurred on the 8th of Aug. 1865, to Miss Libbie Adelia Purinton, daughter of Dr. Purinton, of West Virginia, and granddaughter of Elder Purinton, of Truxton. She was born in Truxton May 13th, 1839, and died November 30th, 1871, and was a lady of excellent qualities. Vernon P. Squires, the eldest son born of this union, was born Nov. 4th, 1866, and is now in the Cortland



THE SQUIRES BUILDING, CORTLAND, N. Y.

Normal School preparing for college. Emma Maud Squires was born May 25th, 1869, and is now in the Normal School, preparing for Vassar College. Louis Almon Squires, born Nov. 24th, 1871, is now in the Normal School, pursuing his regular course of studies.

Mr. Squires was again married on the 14th of May, 1873, to Mary Elizabeth Lester, of Binghamton, who had been a teacher many years and principal of the primary department of the Cortland Normal School. Their children by this marriage are Mary Louisa, born July 19th, 1875, died Aug. 17th, 1876; and Fred Dann Lester, born Feb. 2d, 1877, now in the Normal School.

Mr. Squires lives to enjoy the fruits of his well spent life, in a domestic circle which is in all respects one to be envied. He is a man whose tastes lead him to the enjoyment of home, and hence he has freely bestowed of his wealth to make the surroundings and interior of his dwelling-place as attractive as possible, with a conservatory and its numerous plants and flowers for winter, and his beautiful yard for summer, with which he and his family have ever taken much pleasure.



RESIDENCE OF JAMES S. SQUIRES, CORTLAND, N. Y.

THE SQUIRES BUILDING.

The accompanying illustration gives a good view of the new Squires building, erected by James S. Squires in the summer of 1883. It occupies the historic corner (Tompkins and South Main street), where stood what was known as the old Eagle store, a portion of which structure is embraced in and built around, so to speak, by the new building. The old Eagle store was built by Gen. Roswell Randall nearly sev-

enty years ago, and was then one of the most pretentious buildings in the State west of Albany. There was an arcade or rotunda in the center, from which a winding staircase led to each of the three stories. In that building Mr. Randall kept a store for many years, which was well known throughout the county. The new Squires building has seven stores on the ground floor, all of which are now occupied. The second story is divided into offices and flats. The ten suits of offices are also all occupied. The third story is designed for flats, or suits of living rooms, for which it is admirably fitted and supplied with all modern improvements. A handsome tower surmounts the corner of the building in which is an illuminated clock. As a whole the Squires building, occupying as it does one of the most conspicuous and convenient corners in the village, is a handsome structure and is a credit to the village and an honor to its owner.

RESIDENCE OF JAMES S. SQUIRES.

In the year 1853 Mr. Squires purchased of David R. Hubbard the lot numbered 44 Tompkins street, Cortland village, on which he built a frame house that he occupied until 1871, and this was the first dwelling house on the north side of that street, west of the Randall property (with the exception of some untenable buildings), and in 1871 this house was removed and his handsome brick residence was erected on the same street. The street is now one of the finest in Cortland village, with respect to the character of its private residences and grounds, and is one of the most popular and attractive thoroughfares in the place. Mr. Squires' residence, as will be seen by the engraving herein, is characterized by its modest elegance and plain, yet symmetrical architecture. The grounds are handsomely laid out and carefully attended.

CALEB BARDANO HITCHCOCK, the subject of this sketch, is one of the representative business men of Cortland county. His grandfather, Noah Hitchcock, was among the pioneer settlers of Homer, N. Y. His father, Caleb Hitchcock, moved to Dryden, N. Y., where Caleb B. was born March 30th, 1839. In 1841 his father died, leaving his mother with six children, of whom Caleb was the youngest, being only two years of age. Mrs. Hitchcock then removed to Homer with her young family, and by her own industry and economy secured to her children the advantages of a good education. When thirteen years old, Caleb B. went to Venice, Cayuga county, and worked on the farm of Jesse Tillet for two years, attending the winter terms of the district school. Returning to Homer at the end of this time he attended the academy four terms, which completed his school education. Thus, at the age of seventeen, he started out to begin the battle of life and to win a position among men. Two years later found him an employee in the *then* celebrated carriage factory of S. W. Cately, at Tully, Onondaga Co., N. Y., where he obtained a thorough knowledge of all parts of carriage work.

At the end of three years' service he went to Cincinnatus and worked in the shop of Larabee & Gee, where, a year later, with the earnings which his frugality had enabled him to save, he purchased an interest in the business, afterwards becoming the sole proprietor.

After a time he disposed of his carriage shop and opened a furniture, undertaking and livery business, in which he remained until about 1877. During this time he occasionally finished a few cutters and conceived the idea of the large manufacturing interest which now bears his name.

Recognizing the limit and inconvenience placed upon business in an inland town, and



Yours Truly
C. P. Hitchcock

observing the growing impulse for extensive manufactories developing in Cortland, he removed there in the spring of 1877, to attempt to put into practical execution some of the plans he had been maturing to build up a large wholesale manufactory for cutters and sleighs. To this end he rented the Gee property on Port Watson street, and the first year, having five employees, made and sold one hundred cutters — a business not exceeding four thousand dollars. The following season he purchased what was then known as the old church property on Elm street, and each year thereafter more than doubled the business — buying lot after lot and putting up building after building of immense proportions, until the business, of four thousand dollars in 1877, reached nearly half a million in 1884.

Mr. Hitchcock is emphatically a self-made man. Being a good judge of human nature enabled him to gather about him as employees men well fitted to aid him in his great enterprises. During his business career he has made no misstep through defect of his own judgment. He is an expert buyer, and it is this superior quality, perhaps, more than any other, that has enabled him to keep pace and even surpass many older and more experienced manufacturers.

Believing in the justice and equity of giving an interest to those who aided him while building up his large business, he organized, in March, 1884, as his successor, "The Hitchcock Manufacturing Company," with a capital of $150,000, and a charter for fifty years with C. B. Hitchcock as president, H. L. Gleason, secretary, and H. C. Henry as treasurer. This company, on the first day of January, will have built and sold 3,500 wagons and 10,000 sleighs, shipping in the busiest times a sleigh every five minutes, and are fully sustaining their well earned reputation of building the largest number of cutters of any factory in the world. It is their intention next year to build 5,000 wagons and 15,000 sleighs, thus pushing the business close to a million dollars.

ALONZO D. BLODGETT. Following is a brief genealogy of the Blodgett family, of which the subject of this sketch is a member: —

The Blodgett family came from Lexington, Mass. Thomas Blodgett came from London in 1635; settled at Cambridge. Children, Daniel, Samuel, Susan. Samuel born in England, 1633; died 1687; married Ruth Ingleden, 1655. Children, Ruth, Samuel, Susan, Sarah.

2. Thomas, born 1660; removed to Lexington 1699; married Rebecca Tidd 1684. Children, Thomas, Rebecca, Joseph, Abigail, Saul.

3. Joseph, jr., son of Joseph, born 1696; married (first wife) Sarah Stone, who was born at Lexington 1700; died 1735; second wife, Sarah Ingersoll, 1738; she was born at Springfield 1718. Joseph, jr., died June 10th, 1783. Sarah Ingersoll Blodgett died April 24th, 1774. Children of Sarah Stone and Sarah Ingersoll: Joseph, April 17th, 1721; Sarah, November 12th, 1722; Anna, April 10th, 1724; Abigail, July 18th, 1726; Ruth, March 1st, 1728; Benjamin, June 9th, 1730; Abner, June 6th, 1732; Thomas, September 26th, 1734. Sarah Ingersoll's children, Samuel, May 17th, 1739; Lydia, February 7th, 1741; Jonas, November 12th, 1743; Azubah, April 12th, 1746; Caleb, November 24th, 1748; Elijah, October 25th, 1750; Marsena, March 4th, 1754; Nathan, November 3d, 1756; Admatha, December 15th, 1758.

Children of Nathan Blodgett (born 1756), who married Abigail Bliss, born August 30th, 1760: Loren, born April 22d, 1782; Rachel, born July 4th, 1785; Lot, born August 20th, 1787; Lewis, born March 10th, 1790; Lydia, born September 27th,

1792; Abigail, born June 9th, 1795; Franklin, born January 21st, 1798; Eliza, born May 5th, 1800; George A., born June 26th, 1804; Dwight F., born March 31st, 1806.

Franklin Benjamin married Achsah Dewey, born August 8th, 1798; married November 1st, 1821. Children, Orissa Blodgett, born July 24th, 1823; Alonzo Dwight, born June 14th, 1825; Lewis Gaylord, born May 14th, 1827; J. Randolph, born March 12th, 1829; Jane Amelia, born March 28th, 1831; Mary Louisa, born April 15th, 1833.

Alonzo D. Blodgett, the well-known farmer and stock raiser, is a grandson of Nathan Blodgett, an old colonial soldier who settled on the present Blodgett homestead in 1805. Nathan Blodgett was born near Lexington, Mass., and bound out until twenty-one years old, for which service he received one hundred dollars. On the 10th of September, 1778, he was appointed sergeant in the third company of the first regiment of Worcester, Joseph Putnam, jr., captain; and on the 2d of July, 1792, was appointed by John Hancock, then governor of the State, as ensign of the same company, and on May 15th, 1794, he received an honorable discharge; thereafter he was a pensioner until his death. In 1804 he came to Whitestown, N. Y., and in 1805 he built his log cabin near the site now occupied by Alonzo Blodgett's house. During the following year he erected his forge and was one of the earliest blacksmiths in the town. On the homestead stands an elm tree planted by him about the time of his settlement, which has attained a circumference about its base of nearly eleven feet. He was for a number of years commissioner of highways and was one of the first to take active steps towards securing a public library for the village of Cortland. His son, Franklin B. Blodgett, was but seven years old when his father came to this place. He was an unostentatious man, and sought no official honors or public station; he turned rather to those domestic comforts that are found in congenial and religious households of the character of his own. He was a carpenter and in 1816 assisted in building the "Blodgett's Mills" at the hamlet of that name; and in 1850 the old part of the house now occupied by Alonzo D. Blodgett. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church in Cortland in 1832; was soon after made an elder and then a deacon; these offices he held for forty years, until 1872; he was a member of the session thirty-seven years. In his death the church lost one of its most valuable members and one who had been most devoted to the great work of advancing the cause of religion. He died as he had lived, strong in the faith.

Alonzo Dwight Blodgett, the eldest son of Franklin Benjamin Blodgett and Achsah Dewey, was born in the town of Cortland, June 14th, 1825, and now resides on the homestead that has been the patrimony of the family for eighty years, and which is one of the most attractive and valuable farms in the county. Mr. Blodgett spent a portion of the earlier years of his life at school, but being the oldest son, his advantages in this respect were limited, for his services were of too much consequence at home. Musical talent is inborn in the family, and especially in the subject of this sketch; the study and practice of the divine art became a passion with him, and being possessed of an excellent voice, he soon took the position in the community to which he was thereby entitled — a leader in all musical matters. As early as 1844, when he was but nineteen, he joined the choir of the Presbyterian Church in Cortland, and in the following year became its leader. This position he has held constantly since that time — a period of forty years. No higher



ALONZO D. BLODGETT.

testimonial is needed than this, not only to his musical ability and devotion, but to his faculty for organization, for harmonizing the discords that often arise in church singing bodies and for promoting the general musical interests of the community. About the time that he became the choir leader he also commenced teaching vocal music through this portion of the State, which arduous work he followed a large portion of fifteen years. But the exposure of attending night schools and his practice of fulfilling his engagements, regardless of inclement weather or the state of his health, finally produced such ill effects upon his physical system that he was compelled to abandon traveling altogether. For two years he was the advance agent of "The Amphions," a popular concert company that enjoyed an excellent reputation wherever they appeared.

But although Mr. Blodgett gave up traveling and teaching, his musical labors were not by any means abandoned. In the numerous concerts that have been given in Cortland, Homer and vicinity, he has always been looked to as the first one to depend upon for success. Whatever the cause that has needed support — temperance, charity, schools, churches, or any laudable undertaking — Mr. Blodgett has been found not only willing to contribute his talents and time and almost invariably to the success of the event. In Cortland alone he has taken part in thirty-six concerts, twenty-one of which he conducted in person, and most of which were for charitable objects. During the late war he was generally foremost wherever money and troops were to be raised, monuments erected, or widows and orphans of soldiers to be provided for, the tuneful strains of patriotic melodies often serving effectually for these purposes where other means failed.

Before the late war Mr. Blodgett received the appointment of adjutant of the Forty-second Regiment New York State Militia, and afterward was enrolled in the same in the National Guard. He was subsequently promoted to major and then to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the Seventy-sixth Regiment National Guards, which office he now holds.

Mr. Blodgett has always taken an active interest in the County Agricultural Society, holding the office of secretary seven years, and elected president in 1870 and again in 1881. As a farmer he has kept abreast of the times; was the first president of the Farmer's Club, which office he has held continuously to the present time, and which organization he has done much to support and improve.

Mr. Blodgett was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor Dickinson on the 13th of June, 1860; she is a daughter of Obadiah Dickinson and his wife, Eleanor, of Onondaga Valley. Her father was a native of Hatfield, Mass., and came to this State in 1844; he died in 1879. Her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Blodgett have two children living; Edward D., the elder, is in the class of '87 at Amherst College, and Frank D. is attending school at home. The family now have one of the pleasantest suburban homes in the town.

JAMES H. TRIPP, the banker and capitalist of Marathon, N. Y., was born in Ancram, Columbia county, N. Y., January 17th, 1832. His grandfather was Daniel Tripp who was born in the town of Pawling, N. Y., in 1771, where he and his wife, Elizabeth Akin, became prominent in the sect of "Friends," of Quaker Hill, Duchess county, a religious society which has had an existence of over one hundred and fifty years. He afterwards removed to Ancram, Columbia county, N. Y. In 1838 he removed to Dryden, Tompkins county, N. Y., where he died in 1856.

Daniel A. Tripp, father of James H., was born in the town of Ancram, August 31st, 1804. In 1828 he married Loritta Haviland, daughter of Benjamin H. Haviland, of Athens, Greene county, N. Y. Benjamin H. Haviland was for a number of years captain of a sailing vessel on the Hudson river. In 1837 Daniel A. Tripp removed to Dryden, Tompkins county, and in the following year moved across the town line into the town of Harford, where he lived until his death, December 5th, 1883. He was a man of great industry and strict integrity. His wife died in 1873 at the age of sixty-seven years. She was an estimable woman, a great reader, and possessed remarkable powers of memory, even in her later days. Their children were Mrs. E. H. Lampman, of Coxsackie, Greene county, N. Y.; J. H. Tripp, of Marathon; Miss C. H. Tripp, of Harford; Miss E. C. Tripp, of Harford; Mrs. Louisa Thomas, of Dryden; D. B. Tripp, assistant cashier of the bank of Marathon; Mrs. Mary Wheeler, of Washington, D. C.; E. W. Tripp, of Homer; and John C. Tripp, who died in Syracuse in 1881.

James H. Tripp, when five years of age, came with his parents to this section of the State and received his early education in the schools of Harford, with one term in the Cortland Academy. When nineteen years of age he began teaching, which occupation he followed in district schools during the winter months of five years. In 1856 he came to Marathon and engaged as clerk for Peck & Adams, a well known firm of general merchants at that time. He remained with them in this capacity until 1859, when he was admitted to partnership under the firm name of Peck, Adams & Tripp, in which relationship he continued till the winter of 1862. It was at this time that the attention of H. J. Messenger was attracted toward Mr. Tripp and discovering in him superior business ability, induced him to take the responsible position of cashier in his Marathon bank. Up to this time Mr. Tripp was totally ignorant of banking business and did not even know the methods employed to detect counterfeit bank bills, although the country was flooded with spurious paper. His success, however, was so marked that in six months time he was promoted to the position of cashier in the large bank at Canandaigua, of which Mr. Messenger was president. He remained in the employ of Mr. Messenger for a period of four years, as cashier and as superintendent of his general affairs in Marathon, Canandaigua and Geneva.

In the fall of 1865 he entered into partnership with his old employer, Lyman Adams, under the firm name of Tripp & Adams, buying out the interest of Mr. Peck. This business relationship has continued to the present time, a period of twenty years, eighteen and a half of which were devoted to general merchandising and private banking. In June, 1884, such had been their success as bankers, they felt justified in the organization of the First National Bank of Marathon, of which Mr. Tripp is now president.

On the fifth of October, 1865, Mr. Tripp was married to Sarah Remington, a daughter of Chauncey Remington, a druggist of Ontario county. She died in 1871, and and on November 11th, 1873, he married Mrs. Louisa Bogardus, daughter of Edward Farrington, a native of Duchess county, N. Y., who removed to near Cortland village while young and at a later date to De Ruyter, Madison county, where he still resides; he is a prominent farmer at that place. Louisa Farrington was first married to Martin D. Bogardus, one of the leading farmers of the town of Cuyler. He died about three years after their marriage. Their daughter, Anna, who was born in

1870, has been adopted by Mr. Tripp and is a loved and cherished member of his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Tripp are now in the enjoyment of a beautiful home and the luxuries of life to which they are entitled; and as members of the society in which they live are tendered the respect and friendship of all.

JAMES HARMON HOOSE was born January 24th, 1835, near Warnerville, Schoharie county, N. Y., where his parents then lived. His father, Abram Hoose, was born October 6th, 1808, and was of Holland ancestry that settled upon lands now included in Columbia county, N. Y. He was a man of much force of character, industrious, upright, and possessed a deep regard for that liberty which was established for citizens by the American Independence. Mrs. Abram Hoose, whose maiden name was Rosanna Miller, was born January 26th, 1809, and belonged to German lineage that settled upon land near Florida in Montgomery county, N. Y. She was a woman of unusual force of character, and possessed rare aptitudes and love for literary attainments, losing no opportunity to avail herself of the limited advantages for mental improvement which the country then afforded. She died June 6th, 1867.

Mr. Abram Hoose and family moved in 1836 to the town of Parish, Oswego county N. Y., where he purchased wild land; he became a very prosperous farmer, and was held in high estimation as a public spirited citizen; he was always the friend of the common school. The children in the family were James, who was the eldest; Jedidiah, five years younger, who is now a prominent business man in Mexico, N. Y.; and Janette who was seven years younger than Jedidiah; she lived on a farm near the homestead until her death, which occurred Oct. 7th, 1884. The three children were brought up to be industrious and persevering; they were taught obedience and to be respectful to others; they were taught good habits of temperance; they were sent to the district school during their earlier years, and to higher schools in subsequent years.

The elder son, the subject of this sketch, applied himself diligently and successfully to his studies in the district school; he was a constant reader, reading through the old district-school library and as many other books as he could find in the neighborhood. He taught his first term of school when he was eighteen, in the district where he had always attended school; the term was a winter school of four months, and his wages were twelve dollars per month and "board around." In the following spring and fall he went to school at Mexico Academy and attended also at Mexico his first Teachers' Institute. He taught, in New York and in Ohio, district schools in winter, in Teachers' Institutes in the fall, and classes in the academy occasionally, and studied in the academy a couple of terms each year, assisting his father upon the farm during vacations. He pursued his studies, classical, mathematical, and scientific, in this way, at Mexico Academy and at Warnerville Seminary, until he entered Genesee College in the fall of 1859. While connected with the college he taught school winters, but by pursuing his studies as a private student with Dr. John R. French, now Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Syracuse University, he kept his rank in the college, and was graduated from it in June, 1861. While in college he took very high rank as a student, especially in the higher mathematics. He held at Pulaski in the spring of 1860 a select normal school for teachers of Oswego county. He afterwards became principal of Pulaski Academy for a short time.

Dr. Hoose was one of the prominent movers in organizing the Oswego County Teachers' Association, serving for a time as its corresponding secretary. He attended for the first time the New York State Teachers' Association at its session held in Syracuse, in 1860; he has attended nearly every session of the association since that date; he was its president when the session was held at Saratoga Springs, in July, 1872. He has attended for years the meetings of the National Educational Association, be ing a life member of it; he was one year president of the normal section of that association. He is a member of the National Council of Education. He has been an alumni trustee of Syracuse University ever since its establishment, and was re-elected in June, 1884 for a third term of six years.

He was conductor of Institutes from 1866 until 1869, holding sessions in nearly every county of the State, although he was employed occasionally from 1857; he conducted Institutes now and then from 1869 to 1877, and has delivered addresses in them from time to time ever since. He visited Europe in 1877 to investigate educational affairs in the old world. His pen has been busy as an educational writer. He was appointed in 1862 one of the editors of *The New York Teacher*. He has written many articles for publication, and many addresses. His books are: Notes on the Educational System of Great Britain; Hints to Americans visiting Europe; Studies in Articulation; On the Province of Methods of Teaching; The First Year Text-Book in Number, based upon the Pestalozzian System. He was for one year, 1881–82, editor of the department of "Notes" in *Education*.

Dr. Hoose has held in the State of New York the following positions as teacher since he was graduated from college: Professor of Mathematics in the Susquehanna Seminary, Binghamton; principal of a large select school at Sharon Springs; principal of Warnerville Seminary, Warnerville; teacher in charge of the English department in Cortland Academy, Homer; professor of Mathematics in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, Lima; principal of Ward School No. 4, Oswego, and assistant in Science in the Oswego Normal School; professor of Theory and Practice and of English Language and Literature in the State Normal School at Brockport. He entered upon his duties as principal of the Cortland Normal School in February, 1869, the first term opening March 3d, 1869. He was acting principal of the Fredonia State Normal School two months in the fall of 1878, upon the death of Dr. J. W. Armstrong, who had been principal there up to that date. He was superintendent of public schools of the city of Binghamton in 1881–82, during ten months of the school-year.

He was married in 1861 to Miss Lemoyne A. Hale, of New Haven, N. Y., who died in 1871. He afterwards married Miss Helen K. Hubbard, of Norwich, N. Y.

The following brief history of the important events that transpired in the life of Dr. Hoose from 1880 to 1884, is from the pen of Prof. C. W. Bennett, D. D., of Syracuse University. [For many details of the history of these years and for an account of the continued prosperity of the school, the reader is referred to another page of this volume which contains the history of the Cortland Normal School.]

Says Dr. Bennett: —

For years had been felt the need of the unification of the educational system of the State, and the removal of educational interests from the realm of partisan politics. To the double headship of this system an unworthy feeling of jealousy and antagonism had been clearly attributable. The colleges,

academies and academic departments in the high schools were amenable to the Board of Regents of the University, while in other respects in the public schools the superintendent of public instruction had supervision and control. Thus a double set of reports must be prepared, and a wide difference of opinion on the part of these two growing authorities at times divided the sentiment of teachers even in the same room. These interests were also represented by two different annual educational gatherings, viz., the State Teachers' Association and the convocation of the Board of Regents. At times there was a manifest tendency to indulge in unfavorable criticism, and there was sometimes wanting that hearty sympathy and frank co-operation that were needful to secure the best results.

The election of the superintendent of public instruction by the joint ballot of the two houses of the legislature, made this officer the creature of a party; hence the temptation was often strong to use his immense official influence and patronage for partisan purposes. Moreover there was an autocratic centralization of legislative, judicial and executive power: from his decisions there was no appeal; he could undo to-day what had been done yesterday; he had absolute power over all schools and school officers; he had control of $3,000,000 of school funds; he controlled all normal schools and school institutes, etc., etc.

Many of the closest thinkers and most earnest educators of all political parties believed that the system of educational superintendence in the State of New York was most vicious, and they desired its reconstruction after the model of the systems of Massachusetts, Connecticut, or Pennsylvania, where a non-partisan board of education appoints its own superintendent or secretary, who shall serve at the pleasure of the board and be subject to its instruction, and amenable to its authority. Thus, it was believed, would the educational interests of the State be most wisely administered and the partisan element be most largely eliminated.

The mental characteristics and educational experience of Dr. Hoose would not permit him to be an indifferent spectator of this movement. He threw all his energies on the side of administrative reconstruction and unification. From time to time he was appointed by important educational associations to write and speak upon this vital question. His utterances were clear and unequivocal. He was a stranger to those prudential maxims that govern the politician. His was the earnestness and indifference to personal consequences that characterize the true reformer.

This was the state of public feeling in the beginning of 1879. The New York State Association of School Commissioners and Superintendents, at their meeting in Ithaca in February, 1879, appointed a committee of correspondence on the revision and consolidation of the two systems of school supervision and superintendence in the State of New York. Of this committee Dr. Hoose was made chairman. The report was given December 1st, 1879. It was thorough and exhaustive. Facts gathered from most extended correspondence with school officers in many States, from wide examination of educational supervision in the various States, from the convictions of the best men in New York who had recommended the needed reform, from the work accomplished under other systems as contrasted with the meager results attained under the New York system, especially in the great centennial exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, and from the partisan action of the then incumbent of the office of superintendent of public instruction, were made the basis of a most complete, instructive argument resulting in these conclusions: —

1. That the legislature of the State of New York shall revise and consolidate all school supervision and administration under a State Board of Education.

2. That this board of education shall appoint the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who shall serve at the pleasure of the board, and be subject to its direction and instruction.

3. That these changes be introduced in the organic laws of the State at the earliest date that is practicable.

To this entire reform the then Superintendent of Public Instruction, Neil Gilmour, was persistently opposed. Both in private conversation and in public utterances and acts, this opposition was manifest. This is conspicuous in his remarks before the National Educational Association at its session in Washington in Dec., 1877. The Deputy Superintendent, also the editor of a daily journal at Albany, as early as 1874 fiercely attacked gentlemen of purest character and widest educational experience, who were laboring to effect wise legislation in the interests of reform. His conduct and utterances had shown him to be in thorough sympathy with the superintendent himself.

It was at this stage of public discussion that strong efforts were made to discontinue the Normal School system in the State of New York. The friends of the system rallied and succeeded in appointing a committee to investigate and report to the legislature. Upon this committee was placed Hon. John I. Gilbert, of St. Lawrence, who was very zealous in defense of the system, and to whom more than to any other one man is due its defense and salvation from the attacks of its adversaries. During the legislative session of 1880 Mr. Gilbert was a candidate for the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction as against Neil Gilmour, the then incumbent, and Dr. Hoose advocated the election of Mr. Gilbert.

On the 28th day of the following June, (1880) Mr. Gilmour, the superintendent, wrote Dr. Hoose demanding his peremptory resignation of the principalship of the Cortland Normal School. The suddenness and unexpectedness of this demand was startling to everybody. It was the more strange because no charges had been made, and most positive commendations of his management had been repeatedly made. Dr. Hoose replied to the superintendent, declining to resign, and the local board, after notification of this action by Mr. Gilmour, inquired of him whether, and what charges had been preferred. Thus began the Cortland Normal School controversy, that has become so famous and that was watched with deep interest by the educators of New York.

On the 12th day of July, 1880, Mr. Gilmour wrote to the local board, also to Dr. Hoose, purporting to withdraw his approval of the further employment of Dr. Hoose in the Normal School. To this communication the local board replied by stating their non-concurrence with the superintendent in the removal of Dr. Hoose, and expressing their opinion of the eminent fitness of that gentleman for his responsible office. The issue between the local board and the superintendent was thus distinctly made: the former holding that the joint concurrence of the superintendent and the local board was necessary to the removal of teachers who had already been appointed; the latter holding (and this was the opinion of the Attorney General) that in the superintendent resided the sole power of removal.

The local board refused to recognize the appointment of a successor to Dr. Hoose, holding that as no vacancy had occurred, no new principal could be appointed. Notice was served by the superintendent upon the other teachers of the school, ordering them to report to his appointee. Six obeyed this summons, while six continued in the school

under the direction of the local board. The six vacancies were supplied, and the year opened as usual under the principalship of Dr. Hoose. Persistent attempts were made by Mr. Gilmour to interfere with the prosperity of the school by withholding the certificates of the appointments of students that had been made by the county authorities, by diverting the students to other Normal Schools, and by withdrawing his approval of the further employment of the six teachers who had continued under the local board.

On the 7th day of September, 1880, the superintendent peremptorily ordered the School to be closed, which order the local board declined to obey, since at that time nearly six hundred pupils, many of whom were from distant parts of the State were in actual attendance, and eminent legal counsel had expressed the opinion that the superintendent had no right or authority to close said school. At the same time, however, a proposition was made to Mr. Gilmour to submit the questions of difference to the Supreme Court and get its early judgment thereon. This reasonable proposition was rejected at first, then accepted with threatening conditions, but afterwards again rejected by the superintendent.

On the 7th day of February, 1881, the superintendent caused to be served upon the local board a peremptory writ of mandamus issued by the Supreme Court to compel said board immediately to terminate the employment of Dr. Hoose and recognize the appointee of the superintendent. This mandamus was issued by the Court solely on the ground that the superintendent had withdrawn his approval of said Hoose; the merits of the case were in no sense canvassed. Dr. Hoose immediately retired from the principalship under protest, not resigning but only waiting the final decisions of the courts. For some months he was engaged as superintendent of the public schools at Binghamton, where his efficient services were greatly prized.

On the 18th day of April, 1882, the Court of Appeals by decision set aside the order of the Supreme Court that had granted the mandamus, and declared Dr. Hoose the legal principal of said Normal School, which declaration was duly filed April 26th, 1882. Immediately after this decision had been rendered Dr. Hoose resumed his duties as principal to the great gratification of the educators of the State. This decision of the Court of Appeals was made the ground of a claim against the State for the amount of salaries due Dr. Hoose and the teachers who had acted with him in the interval between their ejection Feb. 7th, 1881, and their restoration April 26th, 1881. On May 3d, 1884, the Board of Claims, after careful review of the case, awarded the salaries, amounting to $10,-217.81, and on the 24th day of May, 1884, Gov. Cleveland signed the bill making appropriation to pay the award of the Board of Claims. Thus ended this famous controversy.

Amid it all Dr. Hoose maintained a dignity and quietude truly admirable. The persistence of the attack upon him (for this was the real animus of the entire movement) was only equaled by the coolness and earnestness of the defense. At no stage of the controversy did he loose courage; for he firmly believed that the law of the Empire State had not been so loosely framed as to permit the interests of great institutions of her own founding to be imperiled by the caprice or the animosity of a single officer.

To him and to the local board do all the teachers of the State owe a debt of gratitude. The decisions resulting from the controversy have given greater dignity to the teacher's profession, and have done away with a craven spirit of fear that must otherwise have taken possession of all teachers

in the public schools. These decisions have also showed that the State will carefully guard the reputation and interests of its faithful school servants, and will curb the hasty action of nervous or jealous officials, who would attempt to curb generous and manly discussion of public questions.

THE FREER FAMILY. The immediate ancestors of this prominent Cortland county family was John A. Freer, who, with his wife, Rachael De Puy Freer, daughter of Joseph and Mary De Puy, of Rochester, Ulster county, N. Y., with his family of three children, started on the 1st day of November, 1802, for Homer (then in Onondaga county), now Cortland county, N. Y. The family came by the way of Kingston, Catskill, Coxsackie, Albany, Schenectady, Kaghnawaga, Utica, Wampsville, Manlius, Pompey Hill (then called Butler Hill). One team was driven by the hired man, and the other by Joseph De Puy, jr., a brother of Mrs. Freer. There were also in this company, Maria De Puy, a sister of Mrs. Freer, and a hired man named Jacobus Clearwater. The night John A. Freer reached Butler Hill, he bought a cow for twenty dollars. Upon reaching the north part of Homer they stayed at the house of Peter Vanderlyne; this was on Saturday night, and the next day they came to the now village of Cortland (then consisting of only one house), where they attended meeting under the preaching of Rev. Nathan Darrow. In the afternoon of the same day they reached their destination and located on the southeast corner of lot 74. This land he had previously purchased, but to his great disappointment found no house in which to take shelter. This was on the 13th day of November. He had been on the road thirteen days. The snow on the morning of their arrival was eight inches deep, and with no house for the family nor shelter for the teams the outlook was indeed cold and gloomy. It was the wish of Mrs. Freer, that the tents should be taken from the wagon and set up by the side of a large hollow stump, but it was finally decided that they would stop at the house of Nathaniel Knapp, whose family consisted only of himself, wife and child; but the cabin was only 18 by 20 feet — certainly not a very commodious one — but here they found shelter until a log house could be built; this, however, was commenced the very next day. But the house was without a door, had few boards overhead, no windows save holes in the sides of the cabin covered with blankets, and lacked many other conveniences we would now consider as indispensable to housekeeping.

The neighbors at this time were the Messrs. Lee, Budd, Chase, Morse, Scott, and the two Mr. Knapps. Upon the morning after the removal into the new quarters, Anthony Freer was standing about two rods from the door place, when an animal passed by. He ran to tell his mother that a large black hog was near the house, but the tracks of the animal proved it to be a bear, which had passed within two rods of the boy.

John A. Freer and his hired man next built a hovel of logs and covered it with poles and brush, large enough to shelter the teams and the cow. After this they constructed a fire hearth in the cabin to burn wood, and after making some other simple provisions for the further comfort of the family, Mr. Freer started out to return to his former home to get his sleigh and another load of goods. He started on Christmas day, 1802, and took his hired man with him, intending to be gone but three weeks, going by the way of Oxford. When he reached Unadilla the snow had melted off the ground and he was forced to leave his small wood sled and go on horseback.



Upon reaching his destination he had to wait until the last week in February before he could start on his return, and reached home on the 2d of March following. This long absence of the father, without word of any kind, naturally caused much uneasiness on the part of the wife, and was to her a trying time, with no earthly protector save a faithful dog and the kind assistance of the neighbors, and from the Lee family especially. She spent these three months almost in solitude, save the howling of wolves at night and the storm and wind by day, around the newly constructed log house; yet her faith and courage was equal to the emergency. All kinds of conjectures had been indulged in as to what had become of the father. With no mails, and no post-office nearer than Onondaga, it seemed an impossibility for her to obtain news without going in search of it herself with three small children, the oldest but seven years of age. She began to make preparations to return in quest of her husband. Difficulties, however, (and the main one was in selling her cow — the difference of two dollars in the price decided her to stay), prevented the consummation of her plans, and before the day of her departure was at hand she was joyfully surprised by the return of her husband.

The family of John A. Freer and wife consisted of ten children, two of whom died in infancy. The remaining eight were named as follows, Maria, Anthony, Jane Low, Joseph De Puy, Catherine R., John James, Sarah R. and Stephen Decatur. Maria, the eldest, was married to Lyman Mallery in 1817, and removed to Seneca county, where she died in 1845, leaving two children; the youngest, Elias De Puy Mallery, now lives in Cortland village. Anthony, a sketch of whose life is given herein. Jane Low died in 1883. Joseph De Puy, who was admitted to practice at law in 1834, as attorney and solicitor in Chancery and as counselor in the Supreme Court in 1838, died in 1850. Catherine R., who still owns property and resides there. John James, the fifth son, spent his life in Cortland county as a farmer. He was a man of strong constitution, excellent habits and successfully accomplished whatever he undertook. He was twice married, his first wife being Alice Whitney, who died leaving a family of five boys; four now are living. He afterward married a Mrs. Tarble, of Freetown, by whom he had four children, three of whom survive him. He died in October, 1884. Sarah R., widow of James W. Sturtevant, whose biography appears in this work, still resides in Cortland.

John A. Freer and wife were both active members of the Presbyterian Church, and were among the original members on forming the first Presbyterian Church and Society, which consisted of only seven members on its organization.

John A. Freer died in 1826, and Rachel Freer died in 1852.

ANTHONY FREER was the second child of John A. Freer and Rachael De Puy Freer and was born August 21st, 1797. His parentage on both sides can be traced back to the Huguenots, who came to this country about the year 1680, on account of religious persecutions.

Anthony Freer spent his early life on his father's farm on lot 74, about one mile south of the village of Cortland. He was the oldest of the family of boys, and received his education from the limited schools then afforded in a newly settled country. While a young man and years before his father's death (which occurred in 1826) he was noted as a man of strong mind, and of positive character, and possessed of a remarkably retentive memory. He was frequently employed by drovers of hogs, cattle and horses, and made a number of trips

to New York, Hartford, Connecticut and other routes east, and it has been said he could remember every mile board on the old Newburg and Catskill turnpikes after one of his trips. His career as a farmer was continued very successfully until 1837, at which time he engaged in the foundry business in Cortland village.

He was active and energetic in the various callings of life. He was a strong supporter of common schools and of the various interests connected with the growth of the village. He was also active in politics and a warm supporter of the Democratic party. In 1828 he was one of the first in securing a division of the town of Homer, going to Albany as a lobby member for this purpose. He held the offices of county treasurer and superintendent of the poor at various times and was surrogate of the county from 1836 to 1840, and from 1844 to 1847, when the new constitution went into effect requiring the office of surrogate and county judge to be consolidated and to be held by a practicing lawyer. He was an active member of the county agricultural society from its organization and in 1852 was elected its president. His associates in the political field were such men as Wm. Mallery, John Gillett, General Hathaway, Oliver Kingman, William Bartlett, and men of that stamp, all of whom were always present at the preliminary meetings and wise in their counsels.

His motto and principle was always to do right, and never would consent to yield his principles of right and justice for expediency or policy under any circumstances whatever.

Mr. Freer was also an active member of the Presbyterian church of Cortland village, and served efficiently as trustee of this society for many years. He died September 12th, 1871. He was a bachelor and spent sixty-nine years of his earthly pilgrimage in this place. As stated by the Rev. Mr. Howe in his funeral discourse: "He has been in our midst watching as he was able to do the growth and development of the place through all the successive stages of its progress to the attainment of its present prosperity and beauty; with whose history he has been identified and to whose prosperity we may well believe he has in no small degree contributed."

He also bears testimony to his honesty and integrity in the following words: "Afterwards he was with his brother (Stephen D. Freer), for a term of years, engaged largely and prosperously in business, building up and carrying forward one of the most important manufacturing enterprises of the place, in the conduct of which, and in all his business transactions, he bears an unblemished reputation for incorruptible integrity and honesty. That he was a truly honest man is the verdict of all, from which perhaps no dissent was ever uttered."

JOSEPH DE PUY FREER.—At the opening of the Cortland County Circuit, June 13th, 1850, Horatio Ballard, in a few appropriate remarks, announced the death of Joseph De Puy Freer,— formerly, and till his death, a member of the bar of the county, and recommended a meeting of the lawyers at the court-house that day for the purpose of paying a proper respect to the memory of the deceased. In pursuance of this recommendation, a meeting was held at the appointed time when it was

Resolved, That we have received with deep regret information of the death of Joseph De Puy Freer, Esq., for several years a member of the bar of Cortland county.

Resolved, That the amiable deportment, known firmness of character, unblemished integrity, and the legal attainments of the deceased, had justly acquired for him the regard and respect of the community and more especially of the profession who was most intimately associated with him, and insures that his name and character will long be remembered and respected.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, we will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That we sympathize with the relatives of the deceased in the loss which they have sustained, and that a copy of these resolutions be communicated to them."

These resolutions were also published in the newspapers and the members of the bar also attended the funeral in a body. Henry Stephens was chairman of the meeting and Lewis Kingsley was secretary.

This expression of his professional associates is, perhaps, the most deserved and just tribute that we can here pay to the memory of Joseph De Puy Freer. His loss to the village was looked upon by the community as one that could scarcely be repaired. Had he lived he would, without a doubt, have attained an eminent position before the public and won a still larger circle of friends.

STEPHEN DECATUR FREER, the youngest of the ten children, was born in 1815, and has passed his already long life in Cortland. His younger days were spent on his father's farm. When fourteen years of age he began attendance at the village school, and attended for one year the high school kept there by Orlin Oatnam, on the plan of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, of Troy. As an indication of his proficiency in study, it is related that he was called on while a boy in school at fourteen, by Samuel Hotchkiss, then county clerk, to make a map of the then town of Homer, locating in full the lot boundaries, roads, streams, business points, etc. This map was made and was used in procuring the subsequent division of the town.

At the age of seventeen Mr. Freer entered the postoffice, then kept by Canfield Marsh, as a clerk and apprentice at the hat finishing trade. He did not remain there long, however, and in 1834 entered General Randall's store on the southwest corner of Main and Tompkins streets, as a clerk. In 1837 he went into the employ of his brother, Anthony, in the foundry business, and in 1838 the firm of A. & S. D. Freer was formed. They conducted the foundry and a large hardware store until 1861, when they sold their goods to Chamberlain & Benton. In the mean time he had engaged in the coal trade, upon the opening of the S., B. & N. Y. railroad, in 1854, and also conducted that business until 1865. He was a member of the firm of Sears, Freer & Cottrell, organized in 1864, who manufactured flax-seed oil in the old paper-mill for a few years; and entered the coal business again, after the failure of this industry to prove a success, in 1873. His last venture proved a decided success, and in 1874 he purchased the large frame building on the corner of Railroad street and the S. B. & N. Y. railroad, where he successfully continued in this business until August, 1883, when he removed to the new coal buildings and offices just completed, opposite the Cortland Wagon Company's works. The buildings are the finest in this section, the coal pocket structure being one hundred and eighty-eight feet in length and forty-eight feet in height, with a capacity for dumping fifteen cars at one time. It is supplied with all the improvements in screens, sieves, etc., for preparing the coal without labor while loading on wagons, and is a model of its kind.

Mr. Freer was married in 1841 to Miss Sarah M. De Puy, of Ulster county, N. Y. She was a daughter of Joseph De Puy, jr. They have four children.

Mr. Freer has been a resident of Cortland for three-score and ten years and has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for a long period. He was the chief officer of the County Agricultural Society, and it was mainly through his influence that the fair grounds were purchased and

the temporary buildings erected in 1858. In 1862 he was again elected chief officer, when he successfully planned and carried into effect the erection of the buildings now on the ground, and was re-elected in 1863. He has always been noted for his energy and activity in all things that have demanded his attention. It has been aptly said that with him, "The best is never too good." This may account, in a measure, for the reputation he has always had, of keeping the best of goods in his store, while his character for integrity secured a rapid extension of business. When he left the foundry and hardware business in 1861, he had 2,200 names on his books, and unsettled accounts of about $11,000. Of this amount he has collected but about $1,000.

AZOR LEROY COLE is a grandson of General Azor Cole, a Revolutionary soldier and pioneer settler of South Cortland. He came from Albany to Cortland on horseback in quest of what was to be his future home. This journey was made at a time when there were but three houses in the village; the old pioneer's last day's ride was fifty miles, and upon reaching the place he made the statement that he was seventy-five years old and could "throw any man in the county, square hold."

His wife had died before he started for his new home. She had experienced the horrors of Indian warfare during the Revolutionary struggle; at one time she was driven from her home by the savages and slept during the severe blast of a wintry night with her two sons in a hole she had dug under the side of a great log in the forest. These two sons were John, the father of the subject of this sketch, and Azor, both of whom came with their father to this place and settled on the farm now owned in part by R. B. Smith.

General Azor Cole was a remarkably well preserved man, straight as a reed, and lived to be ninety-nine years and nine months old. He was the first man, in this section at least, to discover the process of making quicklime. The opportunity was afforded him by an accident. They had fallen some heavy timber into a small pond and upon its being "snaked" out to be burned, drew forth upon it some of the marl which had been deposited at the bottom of the pond. When the timber was burned it was noticed by him that the marl was changed to quicklime, and thereafter a kiln was built and the business followed some time by Mr. Cole and his sons.

John Cole, son of Azor, married for his first wife Joanna Edgecomb, and for his second wife Betsy McNish. They reared a large family of children, six of whom are still living, two only — Harrison De Loss and A. Leroy — residing in the county.

John Cole was in the War of 1812, himself and his horses having been impressed into the service for the transportation of army supplies. He was a mason by trade and lived in South Cortland until he went to Pennsylvania, where he died in 1850 at the age of eighty-eight years.

Azor Leroy Cole was born in South Cortland Aug. 13th, 1828. Here he spent his early life, with limited school advantages, and working most of the time for Swain & Crandall, in the manufacture of lime. In 1855 he worked one year at Pokeville for Palmer & Gleason in a door and sash factory. He then came to Cortland village and for three years was baggageman at the Syracuse & Binghamton railroad station. During the following year he was clerk for Stephen D. Freer in his hardware stoor, at the close of which term his partnership was formed with G. N. Copeland and James A. Schermerhorn under the firm name of Copeland & Co.; this firm carried on the grocery trade successfully for six years. Mr. Cole

then removed to his present residence (1866) and has since that time managed the large real estate interests of William R. Randall.

Mr. Cole was elected trustee of the village in 1861, which office he has held three terms. He is a trustee of the Savings Bank, Cortland, and is also one of the trustees of the Cortland Rural Cemetery; he is president of the Cortland County Bible Society. He became a member of the M. E. Church in 1854 and has been a trustee and class-leader ever since. He has also filled the position of usher for twenty-eight years and has been superintendent of the Sabbath-school for many years. His work in the church has been of a positive and important character, especially in relation to the Sabbath-schools; and his labors have also been effective in building up country Sabbath schools and in reclaiming the misguided and ill-spent time of young men. His wife is also an earnest Christian worker and a woman of most estimable qualities, whose acquaintanceship and esteem are highly prized by all who know her. Her name was Pamelia C. Richardson, daughter of James Richardson, who came from Broome county and entered the employ of Mr. Randall, under whose tuition Mrs. Cole was reared. Mr. and Mrs. Cole were married March 8th, 1854, and have had two children — George L., deceased, and William Randall Cole, a promising lad of fifteen years.

DR. CALEB GREEN was born in La Fayette, Onondaga county, N. Y., November 14th, 1819. On the paternal side he was of English extraction; on the maternal, Scotch. He is of patriotic blood, his grandfathers having both fought in the War of the Revolution, — one of them beginning with the battle of Bunker Hill and the siege of Boston, was in the battles of Bennington, Saratoga, White Plains, and other engagements of that historic struggle. His father was a soldier of the war of 1812.

From a volume published in Philadelphia in 1877, entitled *The Physicians and Surgeons of the United States*, we gather some of the following facts in Dr. Green's history: Being the son of a farmer, he had the usual experiences of a farmer's boy — hard work and a plenty of it, and a training in the habits of frugality and rigid economy.

His early education was obtained in the "freeman's college" — the common school. He also attended the La Fayette High School, and afterwards the old Cortland Academy in its palmy days, under the management of that prince of educators, the late Dr. Samuel B. Woolworth.

In the winter of 1840–41, while teaching a select school in his native village, he commenced the study of medicine, which he afterwards pursued in the office and under the instruction of Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, at that time Professor of Surgery in Geneva Medical College. He attended three courses of lectures in that college, acting, a portion of the time, as prosector to the professor of surgery. He graduated, receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine, January 23d, 1844.

In March, 1844, he entered on the practice of his profession in Homer, where he has since remained.

He took an active part in the organization of the Medical Association of Southern Central New York in 1847, and issued the circular as chairman of the committee appointed by the County Medical Society to call a convention for the purpose of such organization. From 1849 to 1855 he was its Recording Secretary, and edited its Transactions. In 1848, at the request of the president of the association, he read a report on Vital Statistics, with special reference to the climatic and hygienic conditions of the valley of the Tioughnioga. In 1849, as

chairman of the committee appointed to report on "The qualifications requisite for commencing the study of medicine," he presented one of the earliest essays published in this country on a subject which was then beginning to interest and stimulate the medical profession. This paper was published in the Transactions and reviewed, with commendations, in some of the journals.

As an undergraduate, in 1843, he had published in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* an essay on "Epidemic Influenzas, with special reference to the Epidemic of 1843," which he had clinically studied.

In the same journal, in 1845, he published his thesis "On the Functions of the Oblique Muscles of the Eye," based on original investigations.

He became a member of the Cortland County Medical Society in 1845, and was elected its president in 1852. The subject of his annual address in 1853 was "The Physician a Naturalist," and by vote of the society a copy of the address was communicated to the State Medical Society, and by it published in its Transactions for 1853. In 1854 he was elected delegate to the State Medical Society for four years, and in 1858 was elected a permanent member of that society. In 1862 he was again elected president of the County Medical Society. He became a member of the American Medical Association in 1853. In 1860, 1870 and 1880 he was a delegate from the New York State Medical Society to the National Convention for Revising the United States Pharmacopœia — a convention which meets decennially in Washington, D. C. In 1881–82 he was president of the Central New York Medical Association. At the organization of the New York State Medical Association, in February, 1884, he was elected its Recording Secretary. In 1870, on the retirement of the late venerable Dr. George W. Bradford as Secretary of the County Medical Society, an office in which he had most efficiently served the society for forty-five years consecutively, Dr. Green was chosen as his successor, a position which he has held for the last fourteen years.

In 1855 he was appointed to the professorship of Materia Medica and General Pathology in Geneva Medical College. In 1858 there was a re-classification of the departments in the college, and he was appointed to the chair of Physiology and Pathology. In March, 1862, he resigned this professorship, but was afterward offered the chair of Obstetrics, but declined. In 1872, on the organization of the medical department of Syracuse University, he was elected to the chair of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children, but did not accept it, as he preferred to devote himself entirely to the practice of his profession.

Some years ago Madison University conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

Dr. Green has devoted some attention to various departments of natural science, as leisure has permitted, never allowing the fascinations of their pursuit to encroach on his strictly professional duties. In this matter he has always sacrificed his tastes and inclinations to the obligations of his calling, which have daily pressed upon him. Hence he has never taken time for original investigations. He has, however, kept his eyes attentively open to the book of nature, wherever its pages have presented themselves, and whatever accumulations, either in the literature or the field work of natural history, have been acquired, are the result of patient industry during the few leisure moments which have occasionally come to him.

Many years ago he was elected an hon-

orary member of the Buffalo Natural History Society. In 1879 he became a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and in 1882 he was elected a member of the American Society of Microscopists. He is also a member of the Central New York Microscopical Club.

For about twenty years he has been much of the time connected with the school boards, — first as a trustee of Cortland Academy, and for the last few years as a member of the board of education of the Homer Academy and Union School.

In addition to an ample library, rich not only in the old medical classics, for which he has a *penchant*, but also in the latest modern treatises, with transactions of medical societies, and other serials, he provides his office with several of the leading medical and scientific journals, thus keeping himself posted in whatever is new of practical interest in his profession as well as in general science.

On the 8th of September, 1845, Dr. Green was married to Miss Roxanna R. Parsons, of Northampton, Mass., for several years a teacher under Mary Lyon in Mt. Holyoke Female Seminary. They have had three children. The first dying in infancy, the youngest, Frederick Hyde Green, dying at the age of five years and six months. The second son, Dr. Frank Hamilton Green, graduated at the College of Medicine of Syracuse University in June, 1882.

Dr. Green, after forty years of accumulated experience and hard work, is still, day and night, pursuing the active duties of his profession.

MAJ.-GEN. SAMUEL G. HATHEWAY.[1] The death of one of the founders of our county, who, for more than half a century, took a leading part in its affairs — of a man whose life was a career of vicissitude, action and success — calls for something more than the usual brief obituary. It is due to the deceased, and furnishes a useful lesson to the living.

Samuel Gilbert Hatheway, was born in Freetown, Bristol Co., Massachusetts, in 1780. His paternal ancestors emigrated from Devonshire, England. Their descendants were active, and frequently successful business men, occupying prominent places in the community. His father and grandfather were substantial farmers. His grandmother, in the paternal line, was a descendant of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, the distinguished maritime explorer, and of William Bradford, second governor of Plymouth Colony. His mother was descended from the same families, and she counted among her ancestors John Alden, of Plymouth, who went a wooing for Miles Standish so successfully — for *himself*.[1]

The father of Samuel Gilbert Hatheway died near the time of his birth, leaving him to the care of his paternal grandfather. His grandmother and mother taught him in his infancy, and at four years old he could read the Bible. Both of these relatives were superior women. The dignity, benevolence and force of character possessed by his grandmother, are yet remembered in neighborhood tradition; and were constantly reverted to by him to the end of his life.

[1] From the Memorial, published by the late Hon. Henry S. Randall, in 1867.

[illegible] ford. Their daughter Welthea, or Wealthy Gilbert, [illegible] their daughter married Shadrach Hatheway. These were the parents of Samuel Gilbert Hatheway. He was a second son. His only brother was educated under the care of the Rev. Mr. Andrews, and was a fine scholar. Just as he reached manhood, he was lost at sea in the vessel which he commanded. His only sister, Alice, married Walter Dean, a farmer of Windsor. She died early, leaving several children.

When old enough the boy was sent to school. He was an eager and ambitious scholar and was oftenest of any at the head of his class. He was a great favorite with his uncles, one of them often predicting, in a phrase of that day, that "he would cut a wide breadth in the world." These were happy days, but a sad change was approaching. The uncle, Samuel Gilbert, who had charged himself with the future care of the young orphan, died. The Gilberts had been mostly loyalists when the American Colonies shook off their allegiance to the Crown; their estates had been confiscated; and they had retired to New Brunswick, where they received a grant of land from the British government. His uncles, on the father's side, were in a situation where they might have extended a helping hand to him, but according to the ideas of those stern Puritan times, they felt that it was every one's duty to earn his own bread by the sweat of his brow. At nine years old he left his grandfather's house and became entirely dependent upon his own exertions.

Of the period between this and his majority, we have few facts to record. He lived with various persons, toiling hard, going to school winters, studying, and devouring every book he could borrow, by the light of kitchen fires, when the day's work was over. His character was too robust to sink under the change which had taken place in his circumstances and prospects; he uttered no complaints and resolutely performed his duties—but he deeply felt the loneliness of his situation, and was wholly unreconciled to his narrow and hopeless mode of life. As he approached manhood he tried different ways of bettering his condition, and finally, influenced by the example of an older brother, who had speedily risen to the command of a vessel, went to sea. But a single voyage to the West Indies disgusted him with his sea-faring life.

Having now by careful saving laid up a small store of money, he resolved to join the tide of emigration which was then pouring from New England into the western wilderness. Standing on the hill that looks down on the village of Assonet, in his native town, he said, "I shall probably never see this place again; the wide world is before me and I will be a man in it." He then walked to Windsor, took leave of his mother and sister, purchased him a stout roadster, and set out.

Toil had knit and privation had hardened his sinewy frame until it was almost insensible to fatigue, hunger and exposure. His morals were pure, his will firm, his self reliance great, and the key note of his life had been sounded on the hill of Assonet. Thus he entered upon manhood.

It was in 1803 that he turned his horse's head westward, and after some days' riding through the forests of Central New York, he reached Chenango county, where he settled. Two years after he removed to Cincinnatus, in Onondaga county. In 1808 Cortland county was organized and embraced that town. He first purchased three hundred acres of land, thus incurring what was then regarded as a great load of debt. There was a small new clearing on the place and a log house. Otherwise he was in the midst of the primeval forest — his nearest neighbor being some miles distant. As soon as he could get together a stock of provisions, he sent for his mother and two orphan nieces — daughters of his only sister — and they lived with him until the nieces married, and the mother died. She survived until 1826.

His early experiences in the wilderness were those of all our pioneers. It required a sharp struggle to obtain their plain food and raiment. The commonest comforts of life were scanty, and luxuries undreampt of. But he was now eating the blessed bread of

independence and hope, and he toiled on stoutly and cheerfully, felling the forest and enlarging his cultivated fields. Every settler was compelled to place his domestic animals in high pens at night, to protect them from the wolves. The Indians were sometimes dangerous. Every man slept with the gun and axe within the reach of his hand. He never knew what it was to fear. On one occasion an accident had exposed his cattle to the wolves. Aroused at midnight by the near yells of a large pack, he looked out and saw what had occurred. The wolves were just seizing his stock. Bidding two hired men who were sleeping in the house to follow, he threw himself among them armed only with a club. The men dared not leave the house. He, therefore, fought on alone, holding the wild beasts at bay until his animals were secured.

It was his custom to labor throughout the entire day, and then if he had business with others to transact, to transact it at night. He thus often walked miles — barefoot to save his shoes — through the forest, dimly lit by the moon, wolves and panthers uttering their cries around him. His industry and frugality were equaled by his judgment in the farming and other business of border life, and thus his plans prospered and his property accumulated.

In 1808 he married Miss Sally Emerson, of Solon, a woman well fitted by her energy and providence to advance the interests of such a husband — but beautiful, kindly, and possessing a charity to this day warmly remembered by her old townsmen. The wife of a well known gentleman who was present at her funeral says: "All the people of the surrounding country were assembled. The funeral services were long delayed. The multitude talked of nothing else but the deceased. The women gathered together in groups. Many of them had experienced the sharp privations of pioneer life. Each had a deed of mercy to herself or to some of her household to proclaim. Who, they asked each other, will now take care of the poor and the sick? They would then gaze at the corpse and break out into lamentations." She died in 1832.

He received the commission of Justice of the Peace, from the Council of Appointment, in 1810, and continued to hold the office by appointment or election for no less than forty-eight consecutive years, and until he declined to hold it any longer. The explanation of so unusual a fact may be found in the declaration made to us by a gentleman who was long first judge of this county, and who, in early life, often conducted suits before him, then a political opponent. He affirms that he was as independent and impartial a magistrate, and decidedly the ablest one in this capacity, he ever knew; that he at once saw through the facts and law of the case, and that no ability or ingenuity on the part of lawyers could in the least degree mislead or swerve him. And our informant adds, that he never in a single instance heard his fairness called in question. There was no other town office, to which a justice of the peace was eligible, which he did not repeatedly hold, and in all he gave like satisfaction.

He represented Cortland county in the legislature in 1814 and 1818. In the last named year he procured a division of the town of Cincinnatus, and the part of it in which he resided fell within the limits of Freetown — named after his native town. He removed to Solon in 1819 where he continued for the remainder of his life. He was elected to the State Senate in 1822, to Congress in 1832, and was chosen a Presidential Elector in 1852.

In 1848 he married Miss Catharine Saxton, of Groton, New York, and this excellent and accomplished lady still survives.

He was fond of military affairs, and rose through the various grades of office until he was commissioned a Major-General in 1823. In this capacity he possessed largely the confidence of the different State executives, and was often employed by them in making those reorganizations and other arrangements which became necessary to carry out the various military laws enacted during his long term of command.

But it was in politics that he most delighted. He studied the principles of our government and the history of parties from his childhood. His family were Federalists, but before he became a voter his views became fixed on the other side. He prided himself on casting his first vote for Jefferson. He put on his armor in that terrible war of passion, unequaled in intensity and bitterness in our country, and he never took it off.

He possessed the personal traits of leadership. He was as firm as the living rock, and possessed a tough, active persistency of purpose which never slumbered and never rested. Years might roll away — defeats might come — but not even the sharp edge of the resolve was blunted, or the tireless pursuit for a moment slackened. Few could match him in solid argument — we never saw him excelled in the rough and tumble encounter with opponents on election day. His facts, his logic, and his wit were equally ready. The latter was sometimes rough enough, but it was always scorching. He often turned the flank of a prosy debater by a sudden sarcasm, which stung like a barbed arrow, while the surrounding crowd laughed down his discomfited adversary.

The years were but one long election campaign to him. If victorious he immediately commenced organizing to retain victory. If beaten, the same hour saw him up again, covering the retreat, rallying the broken squadrons, and preparing by everything which judgment could devise or ingenuity compass to win victory the next time. His townsmen were devoted to him, and how often their compact phalanx changed the fortunes of the day! Our older citizens well remember the common saying on an election evening, when reports came in from one town after another of Anti-Democratic victories: "Wait till you hear from Solon!" About midnight would be heard the tramp of horses — the cry, "Solon is coming," the proclamation of its vote in the deep bass notes of "the general" — and the thundering shouts of the Democrats over a victory "snatched from the fire."

Gen. Hatheway had higher traits of leadership. He was an acute judge of men, and towards those against whom his prejudices were not excited, a sure one. He was too much disposed, like all men of the same class of character, to underrate opponents and especially so if their talents were mixed with certain classes of foibles, such, for example, as assumption in the young, vanity in the old, pompousness or foppery in any one. These were gall and wormwood to tastes based on the old Puritan models of manners, and obscured from his ken the better qualities which sometimes lay below. But among friends he accurately estimated every one's capacities and qualities, and knew just when and how far he could be trusted. This was well known to Democratic executives and the great party leaders. He almost controlled the early executive appointments in his district, and was rarely voted down in the County, Senatorial and Congressional Conventions which he so constantly attended. Many prominent men owed their start in political life to him. Judge Nelson, of the United States Supreme Court, who commenced his career as a lawyer in this county, told a member of the Onondaga bar

that "whatever he had gained, he owed the founding of his fortunes to General Hatheway." Others but a little less prominent could have truthfully said the same.

But it was in the great councils of his party that he most markedly exhibited the vigor of his mind and character. His creed was the creed of Jefferson and the early Democratic fathers, pure and simple. No man had weighed every word, every letter, the whole spirit and intent of it, or understood every iota of it, better than he: and it sufficed him. He loved no new planks in the platform—no hewing over or refitting of old ones. When the times brought up new questions and the necessity of new party issues, few were so capable as he to decide what course best conformed to old principles and established precedents; and to do this as strictly as possible was the only political expediency he knew. He had not a particle of the trimmer or time server in his composition. No temporary popularities or unpopularities daunted, or even influenced him. The rage of popular excitement fell on him like spray on the rock. If adverse, it only strung to greater tension his nerves of steel. In this regard, he was one of those who, in bloody epochs, would have been a hero or a martyr.

He loved the stern joy of victory — he loved personal success — but he would have marched to the scaffold or stake, rather than buy preferment by abandoning his cause or his friends. His contempt for temporary popular impulses sprung from no contempt for the people. He was a Democrat in the essence as well as the name. It is rather because he deeply trusted the people and felt unshaken faith that when they were wrong, the "sober second thought" would bring them right.

It was this high adherence to principle, this sharp discrimination in respect both to principles and the appropriate leaders and subordinate agents to carry them out — this sure judgment in planning — this nerve and persistency in executing — which gave him so much weight in those high secret councils of party to which but the few are admitted. He possessed the entire confidence of the patriotic Daniel D. Tompkins, and of every succeeding executive of the strict party faith. We speak from our own personal knowledge when we say that such statesmen as Van Buren, Wright, Marcy, Nelson, Dix, Flagg and others of like calibre, considered him one of the soundest and safest of party advisers. He was one of the marked favorites of President Jackson, when in Congress.

And it was the same qualities which gave him a full share of influence in the deliberative bodies, legislative and political, of which he was a member. He possessed no forensic powers. Keen, ready and pungent as he was in private discourse, his voice was rarely heard in legislative bodies, never in a set speech. He had not been trained to it, and he was both too modest and too proud to undertake to do what he could not do well. He possessed no ingratiating arts in such places. His deportment was grave and formal, and to a stranger cold, if not stern. His face bore the same expression. He did not thaw readily into geniality. He gave his confidence slowly, and until he gave it, was reserved in his bearing and reticent in the expression of his opinions. He possessed no pliancy of mind or manners. He inherited all over the stiff, sturdy, unchanging, uncourtierlike features of the stock from which he sprung.

He was fair and bold in his politics. He never shrunk from the issue, and the whole issue. He fearlessly avowed and defended every plank in the adopted platform, whether it suited or did not suit his hearer. His convictions were strong and his prejudices were equally strong. He was a

thorough friend and an uncompromising opponent. He struck slashing blows and always waged the war to the end; but he always struck face to face, and never did in the dark what he was unwilling to avow in the broad light of day. He was upright and unvenal. Who, in the wildest rage of parties, ever uttered the suspicion that he was guilty of that political and official corruption, which now flows putrid, like a river of death, through our land? Our old party giants fought with gloves off. They exhibited little delicacy or magnanimity towards opponents. They often mixed personal with political animosities; but they did not play the hypocrite and lie to each other. They did not steal, even from the public. They did not sell their votes or official influence for bribes, after the mode of these milder and more cultivated days.

We are sure we speak from no partial stand point when we pronounce General Hatheway a man of marked and powerful abilities. It was not always our fortune to agree with him. We have felt the biting edge of his hostile blade. But we have ever believed that this county or region never produced or nurtured a man his superior in mental capacity, scarcely an equal in natural parts. We believe that, with professional education, he could have reached high distinction in any intellectual calling. We believe that weaker men have been nursed by training, by circumstance, and by opportunity into renowned lawyers, eminent statesmen, and great men in other pursuits.

But it would be conveying an entirely erroneous impression to speak of him as an uneducated man in the true sense of the word. His school attainments were comparatively nothing, and he never reached anything like the full and rounded literary culture which he prized in others and was so anxious to bestow on his children. But he was a self-educator from his boyhood to the last hour of his life. He not only read but devoured all useful books. He carefully mastered every idea and every detail — appropriated everything valuable — and then laid it away for future use in a memory of almost marvelous retentiveness. Nor was it rendered practically useless by being piled away in confusion or disconnected scraps, after the fashon of those who read without system and merely from curiosity. He digested and classified all he read by careful reflection; and everything bearing on the same point was placed in the same pigeon hole of memory so that it could be rendered instantly available. Thus he studied the Bible, in which he was so familiar that not a word of it could be misquoted or transposed without his instant detection. Thus he studied the rich pages of Grecian, Roman, English and American history. Thus he studied a great variety of publications on numerous and especially on utilitarian subjects. He had no taste for light reading. It was like offering child's posset and confectionery to a hungry giant.

He was better educated still. What is education but, as the word implies, a drawing forth — a development? His powers were all drawn forth, all exercised and matured in the school of action and events. His whole life was action, struggle, contest — in scenes which train every thew and sinew of the understanding and judgment. Of the two, such an education is vastly more thorough and effective than a mere scholastic one. The former always strengthens, the latter sometimes emasculates. How few of our sturdy, unlettered pioneers who were men of large natural capacity, have left sons who, though carefully educated in schools, entirely fill their fathers' places!

General Hatheway, as we have already said, well knew his powers. He possessed perfect self-reliance in all matters on which

he possessed sufficient knowledge to feel competent to decide and act. Hence he adhered to his views with tenacity. The celebrated Joshua A. Spencer was employed in an important law suit for him. They differed as to the theory on which it should be conducted by the former. Neither could convince the other. Mr. Spencer was discharged and the event justified his client's sagacity. Such anecdotes might be multiplied.

As a business man he was eminently successful and accumulated a large property. This was accomplished by large and judicious forecast, by making investments with a correct estimate of the present and future value and availability of property, rather than by extra painstaking, or by commercial exactitude. He was not a speculator, but like all men of English blood, loved to accumulate land, which rose greatly in value on his hands. At the time of his death his estate consisted of several thousand acres.

He was an extremely lenient creditor, never sueing, or taking any advantage of a failure to meet engagements with him, provided no evasion or dishonesty was attempted. A legal gentleman of this county recently remarked to us that he foreclosed fewer mortgages than any man he ever knew who held so many. He was a kind neighbor, an indulgent landlord and a peace making magistrate. He terminated numberless law suits brought before him by his townsmen, by pointing out to them the proper terms of an amicable settlement. But strictly honest himself he required honesty in others. Those who attempted to defraud him received no indulgence. And those who committed what he regarded as an aggression of any kind on him, opened a score which was never closed until the reparation was extorted or the penalty inflicted.

We have painted, so far, a character which all must respect, but which few, perhaps, would love. But he was loved — intensely loved by his family and connections. Few men had more warm personal friends, and these embraced many of the first men among his contemporaries in our county. Judges Nelson, Dayton, Woods, Gray and others of like mark, were not only attached to him while their interests were common and when he could so powerfully serve them, but we are not obliged to speak from hearsay, when we aver that they carried that attachment to other scenes of action and retained it to the end of life. So it was among many of our old leading citizens, who have died in this county, or who still remain among us.

In truth, there was an inner portion of his character which we have scarcely touched upon. His early struggle with disappointment and want chilled his exterior and perhaps circumscribed the range of his personal sympathies. But the pent up fire only burned the more intensely within its narrower limits. Such friends as we have named, if threatened with danger in some unexpected turn of the election campaign, had only to call on him for succor. It mattered not whether the messenger came at midnight, or in tempest; the chief was at once in the saddle, his pennon displayed, and he and his retainers spurring to the rescue. Neither friends nor foes will forget the tremendous vigor of his onslaught on such occasions. And he stood by his friends as staunchly in private transactions as in public life.

His domestic affections glowed like molten lava. Who that witnessed them has forgotten the scenes of voiceless, tearless, terrific agony, impressed for years in awful characters on his face, when the partner of his youth, and when his sons, the gifted Samuel, John, the favorite of the army, George, the gentle and well beloved, and

his daughter, the brilliant and accomplished Mrs. Boyd, preceded him to the tomb. Never was there a kinder husband or more loving and indulgent parent. And how tenderly he gathered under his protecting wing his grandchildren, and other relatives. He seemed to seek compensation for the deprivations of his own youth in leaving nothing lacking to make that of his descendants happy. Every avenue to education and enjoyment was opened to them. He gratified all their wants. He conversed and associated with them as equals, and joined in their amusements. He was ever ready to mount his horse and accompany the young ladies on a ride. He kept them amused and delighted by his wit and by his quaint raillery. Oftentimes he would, with serious face, affect to ridicule their fashionable apparel, their taste for gathering flowers, their going to look at some favorite scenery, or the like,—but they could detect the repressed smile which showed that he was only teasing them, and they well knew who so carefully provided the apparel, who called their attention to the flower when they overlooked it, and who, if they thought of turning back, always proposed to ride a mile further to get the best view.

There was indeed an aesthetic corner in his practical and utilitarian mind. He loved good equipage—he loved pleasant and tasty surroundings—he loved trees and flowers, and the song of birds—he loved striking scenery. He was not a careful farmer, but he dearly loved the fields. He often spent hours riding over them with his wife or family, with no other object but the satisfaction of seeing them and enjoying the sunlight and air. These tastes increased strongly in his later years, for he then had time for them and companions who, without the neglect of duty, could participate in his enjoyments.

The domestic features of the portrait would be incomplete if we omitted to speak of his hospitality. This was unbounded. He delighted to be surrounded by company of all ages and sexes. He was markedly attentive to his guests. His table was liberal and elegant. Unless well acquainted, his manners were at first formal; but he soon relaxed, and his quaintly told anecdotes and keen repartees "set the table on a roar." The guests were importuned to remain. Carriages and saddle horses were ready for each. Their stay was made a scene of festivity and amusement. We well remember how Nelson and the other friends we have mentioned loved to gather round his table of an afternoon and evening, and then gallop home in the "small hours."

The general had one propensity in his younger days which caused many a hearty laugh in this county. As we have said, he was full of humor. He loved teasing and joking, and could not sometimes resist the temptation of playing a practical joke. These were never very serious in their consequences, but were wonderfully mirth provoking to all but the subjects of them. We never heard of his thus victimizing any one without provocation; but when the provocation was offered, and there was no other appropriate way to pay the score, woe to the opener of the account! If we had space and skill in recounting such matters, we should like to place some of these amusing incidents on record; but we have neither.

Age mellowed the good fruit. Old feuds were gradually forgotten—old prejudices softened. The circle of his sympathies expanded. He continued to the last to read and to transact his accustomed business. He grappled with all the new questions of the day with keen interest. We saw him at eighty years old in a county convention, leading his side with all his old vigor. He was warmly urged the same year, by leading friends of one of the presidential candi-

dates, to attend the National Democratic Convention at Charleston.

His faculties, and his force and individuality of character, remained unimpaired until death. He continued to ride daily in the saddle until the snow storms of last winter. He then took a cold and suffered somewhat from indisposition—the first illness of his life—but his constitution, naturally powerful and unimpaired by excesses of any kind, rallied and he felt himself nearly well. He resumed his reading and his rides. When the weather permitted, he busied himself superintending the arrangements of his garden. A week before his death he drove a number of miles with his wife, and spoke with great pleasure of preparations he had made for their thus traveling together the coming summer. Two days afterwards he rode with her to McGrawville, and on his return took his favorite route through his meadows. The day before his death he was well as usual, and very cheerful except when he called the attention of his family to the fact that it was the anniversary of the day on which his wife was to have been buried. (His own death marked the anniversary of her burial). He looked out often during the day on the cold storm of rain and snow then falling, pitying the new born lambs, and speaking of the backwardness of the season. In the evening he took his tea as usual, and talked over business matters with his accustomed interest, with his son. He seemed in an uncommon flow of spirits, spoke much of his old New England home, and told many pleasant anecdotes of his grandmother Hatheway, and of others he had known in his youth, thus prolonging his ordinary hour of retiring. He awoke the next morning in the same cheerful mood, listening for awhile, as was his wont, to the matin songs of the birds, interchanged many cheerful remarks with his wife, and left the room with a pleasantry on his lips. He met in the dining-room a bright, sensible girl of thirteen, who belonged to the family. He stepped to the window and exclaimed: "What a pleasant morning—I am so glad the storm is over." He then, as he often loved to do, commenced jesting and laughing with the little girl. She observed that he was paler than usual; left the room a moment, and on her return found him sitting by the stove, his head slightly leaning on one side, and gazing, she thought, into the fire. But there was something strange in his look, and she immediately gave the alarm. His wife was at his side in an instant, and his family and a physician (Dr. Meacham), sleeping in the house, a moment after. The latter saw at a glance that a great change had taken place—that the soul had departed to God who gave it. An expression of perfect placidity rested on the face of the corpse. Death had come and left no trace of pain. One of his family physicians, Dr. Hyde, informs us that he died without any disease—that the physical machine stopped because it was worn out. This seems to us the most natural and happiest form of death. The event took place at 6 o'clock A. M., on the 2d of May, 1867, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

On the 7th, in the presence of a number of old friends, the fathers of the county, of various distinguished gentlemen from abroad, who attended in despite of the badness of the weather, and of crowds of his sorrowing townsmen, the solemn burial service of the Episcopal church was read by the Rev. Mr. Meacham, and followed by some impressive remarks by the same gentleman. The remains were then borne from the home he had so loved, to the beautiful family burial place, "The Cedars," and placed as he had requested, "between the wife of his youth and his first born son."

He left a son, Colonel Calvin L. Hathe-

way, and three daughters, Sarah, the wife of Dr. Whitney, of Buffalo; Livinia and Elizabeth; also, three granddaughters, Julia, Helen and Caroline Boyd, daughters of Gen. Boyd, of Wisconsin.

The effect of Gen. Hatheway's death throughout the country was striking. His positive and unyielding character, his partisan blows, and his great success had of course engendered enmities. These were dying away, but some of the old scars still smarted. When the stately old oak suddenly fell, the natural sense of justice in every man's heart vindicated itself. Every old prejudice was buried in his grave. Every one admitted the uprightness and massiveness of his character. Every one felt that one of the strongest, bravest and truest of the old fashioned stock of men had passed away.

DR. FREDERICK HYDE. The ancestors of Frederick Hyde were among the first settlers of Norwich, Conn. (in 1660), Elizabeth Hyde being the first white child born there. His grandfather, Gen. Caleb Hyde, settled in Lenox, Mass.; here, in 1774, his name appears, with that of his brother Moses, appended to a petition from that town against British aggression. An important part was borne by several of the family in the Revolutionary War, Major Elijah Hyde being a cavalry officer and a confidential friend of Gov. Trumbull; also Capt. Eliphalet Hyde saw service. Ebenezer died on board the Jersey prison ship. Gen. Hyde was sheriff for some time of Berkshire county, Mass. About 1790 he removed to Lisle, Broome county, N. Y. He was major-general of the State militia, elected a Senator from the western district of New York in 1803 and in 1804 was chosen by the Assembly as one of the council of appointment. His wife was Elizabeth Sacket, daughter of Captain Sacket, a physician of Oblong, N. Y. — a woman of rare excellence, many traditions existing of her ability to meet the emergencies of the times; to train a large family; to convey by her tact news of the enemy's plans to our army; to help her husband exercise a graceful and generous hospitality. Once several officers of distinction called to pay their respects to the general when he was absent. She killed and dressed the porker in the pen and when he returned he found his guests merry over a bounteous table, charmed with their hostess, whose fluent conversation enlivened a feast fit to set before a king. If this woman had any faults time has obliterated them from the record.

Dr. Hyde's father, Ebby, was the thirteenth child and lived at Whitney's Point, where he married Elizabeth Osborn, daughter of Deacon Osborn, and kept a country store. The pioneers usually sent their children back to Lenox Academy for their instruction and these, in turn, taught the growing children at home. Some progress must have been made in education, for Frederick, just previous to his fifteenth birthday, started one cold winter's day on foot thirteen miles to Freetown, Cortland county, to teach a district school, and the chilling remembrances of those months were enough to last a lifetime. After this the rule seemed to be, teach winters, attend school summers, until teaching took all the time; but then he usually had some enterprise of study on hand, till we find him in the family of Dr. Hiram Moe, of Lansing, where he began the reading of medicine, afterward pursued under Dr. Horace Bronson, of Virgil, in 1833. Previous to this his father had removed to this town. While a student, having attended one course of lectures at Fairfied, N. Y., he joined the Cortland County Medical Society, though he did not take his degree of M. D. until 1836. Soon after this he came to Cortland, N. Y., to

live, becoming a partner of Dr. Miles Goodyear, whose daughter, Elvira, he married January 24th, 1838.

He has two children living in Cortland, Augusta Hyde, and Miles G. Hyde, who graduated in 1865 at Yale College, and in 1868 at Geneva Medical College, and has since practiced his profession here, at one time taking part in the teaching at the Syracuse Medical College, and often presenting papers of interest to the County Medical Society.

The details of a busy life, spent wholly for half a century in his profession, though full of startling events to himself and persons concerned, could have little general interest to the community. In 1841 he first attended the New York State Medical Society and read a paper on fever. A circular issued in 1853 shows that at that time he had a private anatomical school at Cortland. This lasted three or four years. Some of the sessions were held in the upper story of the old Eagle store.

In 1854 Dr. Hyde was appointed professor of obstetrics and diseases of women in Geneva Medical College. In 1855 he was transferred to the chair of surgery in the same institution, and occupied that position until the closing of the college, and the organization of the medical department of Syracuse University in 1872, when he became a professor of surgery in the faculty of that school. He is a member of the Southern Central Medical Association of New York, and has been its president. He is a permanent member of the New York State Society and in 1865 was president of that body. In 1868 he was a delegate from this society to the State Medical Society of New Jersey. He was one of the original members of the American Medical Association, and is a permanent member of that organization. In 1884 he was one of the founders of the New York Medical Association, a voluntary association which promises well for the future of the profession. In 1876 he was a delegate to the International Medical Congress held at Philadelphia in connection with the centennial exhibition, and was a delegate to the British Medical Association held at Belfast, to which place he was elected in May, 1884, from the American Medical Association.

In Dr. Hyde's long and successful professional career, extending now over a period of more than forty-eight years, he has contributed many and valuable articles to medical literature, and has treated a large number of remarkable cases in general practice, and has likewise performed many of its most difficult operations in surgery.

In 1883 Dr. Hyde was appointed by Governor Cleveland, to be a trustee of the Asylum for Idiots at Syracuse, which office he holds at the present time. He was elected and has served as president of the Cortland Savings Bank since 1876. Dr. Hyde has been very active in promoting the welfare of public education. He was president of the board of trustees of Cortlandville Academy for eighteen of the twenty-five years of its existence, and has been a member of the local board of the Cortland Normal School since it was organized in 1869, and president of that body since the death of Hon. Henry S. Randall in 1876; and it was during his administration that the State superintendent was foiled in his attempt to wrest the Normal School from the concurrent authority of the board, although the superintendent carried the controversy into the Supreme Court. While the first two decisions were against the board, the Court of Appeals sustained it and the controversy secured enlarged liberty to teachers and added to the dignity of the teacher's profession.

DEACON MANLY HOBART.[1]—The town of Brimfield, Mass., contributed not a few of the early settlers of the town of Homer. Among them were Samuel and Dorothy Hoar or Hobart, the grandparents of the subject of this sketch. They were of the same family whence descended the distinguished Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, and other influential men in that Commonwealth.

In the summer of 1798 Mr. Samuel Hobart had visited Homer, located his farm upon the place now owned by Mr. John Scott and put up a log cabin for the accommodation of his large family. The ensuing winter they moved with an ox team from Massachusetts to what came to be known for many years as "the Hobart farm." Arriving in Homer they found that the heavy snows had broken in the roof of their cabin and accepted gratefully the hospitality of Deacon Peter Hitchcock, whose log-house was the only one then standing between their farm and the site of Homer village. Repairing speedily their humble cabin, they began their residence there and interested themselves at once in all that pertained to the welfare of the infant settlement.

It was Mrs. Dorothy Hobart to whom especially is traced the inception of the action which brought about the formation of the Congregational Church in this town. Of the children of these godly parents, Gideon, the father of Manly, was nineteen years of age when they came to Homer. In 1806 he married Electa Wadsworth, of the well known Wadsworth family, in whose veins coursed the blood of a heroic ancestry and among whose kin have been numbered some of America's distinguished patriots. Their children were Amos, Sophronia, Manly (born May 7, 1810), Horace, Orrin, Euretta, Celinda, Mary M. and Clark E.

Of the childhood and youth of Manly little need be said. His opportunities of education, limited though they were, were diligently improved and he early developed those qualities of decision and energy which contributed so greatly to his success in life. Inheriting the blessings that came from a godly ancestry, receiving the instructions and counsels of pious parents and trained in the exercise of those traits of character which are of highest value, he came up to manhood peculiarly fitted for its duties, and prepared to fill the prominent place he held in the esteem and trust of his fellow men.

June 22d, 1842, he was married to Miss Caroline A. Boies, daughter of Captain Rufus Boies, an influential citizen of Homer, who held many positions of responsibility and trust in church and academy and town affairs. To them were born four daughters, Ellen F., Clara A., Alice B. and Mary S. All of these daughters are married and, with the exception of the youngest, who resides in Syracuse, have their homes in Homer. The oldest daughter is the wife of Mr. Geo. D. Daniels, of the firm of Kingsbury & Daniels, merchants. Her children are Alice C., Anna B. and Manly Hobart Daniels. The second daughter is the wife of Mr. Lyman H. Heberd, who now resides upon the Hobart homestead. Her children are Marian A., Caroline S., Grace E. (deceased), Cora E. and Jessie A. Heberd. The third daughter is the wife of Mr. Charles A. Skinner, until recently a member of the same mercantile firm with Mr. Daniels. Her only child was baptized Clark Hobart Skinner by the dying bed of his grandfather Hobart. The youngest daughter is the wife of Mr. J. M. Knapp, of Syracuse. Her only child is Martin Hobart Knapp.

In the relations of the home Deacon Hobart was a true son, caring tenderly for the comfort of his parents till their death — a kind and loving husband, a wise and tender father and a judicious and helpful brother

[1] By Rev. Wm. A. Robinson.

and friend. He showed the quality of his nature in his peculiar interest in children and youth, and in the way in which even the youngest of his grandchildren loved and trusted him. To his employees and dependents he was uniformly just and forbearing. and among the most sincere mourners at his funeral were some who had known him intimately in such relations for years.

Deacon Hobart was in his early years consecrated to God by his pious parents, and in 1841 made public profession of his faith in Christ and united with the Congregational Church in this village. As a Christian he was positive, humble and faithful. He took such strong hold by faith of God and his promises, that he knew much of the joy and inspiration of conscious fellowship with the Lord. He was always decided in his convictions and loyal to them, and ready for every good word and work. In 1856 he was elected a deacon of the church, a position which he held by repeated elections till his death, and which he so filled that he "purchased to himself a good degree and great boldness in the faith.".

Endowed with a large measure of good common sense, he turned it to sanctified use in official counsels, and as an adviser and helper in every good and benevolent enterprise.

His sagacity and soundness of judgment made him constantly sought by those who needed a wise and true counselor, and no small part of his sacrifice of himself for others' welfare was manifest in his cheerful and careful attention to demands of this nature. In the use of the large property, which by diligence and business sagacity he had accumulated, he sought to promote the great ends to which his life was consecrated.

To-day missionaries on American and foreign soil are preaching the gospel who were largely helped in their preparation for their work by his munificence.

He was practically and generously interested in several great benevolent societies. For a number of years he was president of our County Bible Society, and foremost in the support of its interests. But while he took an intelligent and liberal interest in these broad ministries of good, he did not lose sight of important institutions at home nor prove wanting here in an enlightened and generous public spirit.

For church and academy, for business enterprises and public improvements he was ready to plan and labor and give.

Besides the important offices in the church and in other religious and educational organizations which Deacon Hobart so well filled, he was repeatedly elected to places of trust in business institutions and in the administration of town and county affairs. At the time of his death he had been for several terms a director of the First National Bank of Homer. At different times he had served as a supervisor, and in other similar positions held by him had proved alike his capability and faithfulness.

Deacon Hobart's last sickness was short. He was at the preparatory lecture of his church on Saturday afternoon, September 1st, and though quite unwell, also went to church the following day, saying that it might be his last communion service on earth. His disease, pneumonia, was complicated with other ailments, and he sank rapidly under its power till he gently breathed his last, Friday evening, September 7th, 1883. But, though the body yielded to the fell power of disease, the soul was victor in the strife. In the face of sufferings intense and at times agonizing, he bore clear and triumphant testimony to the worth and sufficiency of Christian faith and the Christian's Master, to sustain and bless even to the end.

His dying counsels to children and grandchildren, to pastor, physician and other

friends will not soon be forgotten, while the promises of God and the words of prayer were often upon his lips. The last words that could be understood from him were, "The Lord is my strength."

It is eminently fitting that in a history of Cortland county the name and memorial of this good man should have permanent place. The engraving which pictures his face may give to those who never knew him some idea of the bright, positive, energetic character that had stamped its evidence in the lineaments of his countenance, but to the many who knew and loved and honored him it may serve to recall the features of one whose true vigor of mind and worth of character make the brief words of this biography seem poor and tame, and whose manifold services in helping forward the interests of his generation, and of the institutions he loved, form in truth his noblest memorial, and highest encomium, next to the word that as we believe welcomed him above: —

"Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

BRIEF PERSONALS.

CINCINNATUS.

Bennett, Alfred L., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, born in Hector, Tompkins county (now Schuyler), in 1834, settled in county in 1836; wife, Sarah Halbert, daughter of Seth and Sophia Halbert, born in Taylor in 1835; married in 1864, and died in 1875. Parents, Philip S. and Lousia Ann (Smith) Bennett, natives of Duchess county; the former died in 1881, and the latter in 1868.

Carruth, William S., p. o. Cincinnatus, dental surgeon, born in Jefferson county, N. Y., March 23d, 1823, settled in Cincinnatus in 1858; has been town clerk four years and was elected again in 1884; first wife, Catharine E. Huntington, married in Norwich, N. Y., Nov. 7th, 1844, and died in 1868; second wife, Amelia A. Brooks, daughter of Luther Brooks, married in Norwich N. Y., Feb. 6th, 1869. Parents, William and Eleanor (Patterson) Carruth; the former died in 1849, the latter March 19th, 1859. Dr. Carruth began the practice of dentistry in Owego, N. Y., in 1857, and in 1858 came to Cincinnatus and has given it his attention up to the present time.

Crittenden, Amos G., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, stock dealer and dairy produce, works 450 acres, born in Cincinnatus in 1862; wife, Addie M. Smith, born in 1862, married in 1881. Parents, Porter and Triphena (Delano) Crittenden, married in 1839, children three: Hattie, born in 1842, Adelbert J., born in 1847, and Amos G., born in 1862. Grandfather, Ebenezer Crittenden, settled in Cincinnatus in 1794.

Crittenden, Burt B., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer and dairy produce, born in Cincinnatus in 1848; wife, Louisa Conrad, born in Marathon; married in 1880, children two: Julius E., and Porter R. Parents, Julius and Altany (Courtney) Crittenden, the former born in Cincinnatus in 1806.

Fish, Reuben, p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, born in Freetown in 1839; was assessor from 1881 to '84; wife, Hattie R. Harrington, daughter of Porter and Adaline M. (Hoadley) Harrington, born in 1848; married in 1872, one child. Parents, E. Dewel and Phoebe (Orcutt) Fish; grandparents, Reuben and Betsey (Cleveland) Fish, the former born in 1780, married in 1799, and died in 1855; the latter born in 1781, and died in 1870; children twelve.

Harrington, Porter C., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, stock and dairy dealer, born in Cincinnatus in 1822; has been assessor three years; wife, Adaline M. Hoadley, born in Solon in 1822; married in 1844, children five: Depea, Dr. A., Harriett M., who married Reuben Fish, Addie, and Cora, who married Randolph Grant. Parents, Dr. and Sally (Crittenden) Harrington; the former came from Mass. to Cortland county where he died in 1867. He served in the war of 1812; second wife, Dolly (Moore) Harrington, now draws a pension.

Jones, Benjamin, p. o. Cincinnatus, retired farmer, owns 180 acres, born on present farm February 4th, 1820; wife, Hannah C. Tillinghast, born in Rhode Island September 3d, 1830; married in 1849, children five: Henry T., Elmer E., Carrie M., Alice A., and Myrta. Henry T. married Ada F. Tillinghast in 1880; children two: Nena May and Clarence Ray; Elmer married Mary Cain; one child, Leon J.; Carrie married Byron N. Johnson; one child, Glen H. Parents, Henry T. and Prudence (Vaughn) Jones, natives of Rhode Island, who settled in Cincinnatus in 1816; children three: Julia, Hannah and Benjamin.

Nichols, Charles, p. o. Cincinnatus, born in Otsego county, in 1820, settled in county in 1822; has been assessor two terms, justice of the peace six years, and held other offices; wife, Rhoda C., daughter of John and Polly (Moore) Jones, born in Cincinnatus in 1828; married in 1848, one son, Fred L., born in 1857. Parents, Abijah and Anna (Hoit) Nichols, the former of Bennington Vt., died in 1857, aged sixty-seven; the latter of Pennsylvania, died in 1880, aged ninety years. Grandparents, Samuel and Esther Nichols, who came to county in 1812, and died in county.

Place, William R., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, born in Rhode Island in 1812, settled in county in 1818; was assessor nine years, and held other offices; wife, Julia Johns, born in R. I. in 1816; married in 1837, and died in 1878, leaving five children: Frank, Marilla, Susan, Elbert, and Edwin. Parents, Thomas and Anna T. (Cole) Place, of R. I., who came to county in 1818; the former died in 1875, aged eighty-eight, the latter in 1875; children six, two sons and four daughters.

Silvernail, James H., p. o. Cincinnatus, carpenter and builder, born in German, N Y., in 1834; wife, Mrs. Amanda (Williams) Silvernail, widow of Robert Silvernail, born in 1842, married second husband, James H., in 1878; children four: Claud, Ida May, Carl M., and Mary R. Parents, Benjamin and Adaline (Sitts) Silvernail, natives of Montgomery county, who came to Cortland county in 1850.

Smith, Marcellus R., p. o. Cincinnatus, physician and surgeon, born in Solon (now Taylor) June 29th, 1816; commenced teaching common school at 17, at 21 entered Pitcher Academy under Prof. R. K. Bourne, where he studied algebra, geometry and surveying; from there he entered Cortland Academy at Homer under Prof. Samuel B. Woolworth, where he remained some two years, studying Latin, Greek, mathematics and the natural sciences; he continued teaching until he entered the law office of Drs. Branch & Powers, at Moravia, N. Y., and pursued the study of medicine until he graduated at Geneva Medical College during the term of 1847 and 1848, and commenced practice at Union Valley. He was married to Deriah Lord, June 8th, 1854. She was born June 2d, 1832. They have had three children, the oldest, Sumner M., died in his seventeenth year; the second, Dr. Samuel L., is now practicing medicine at Smithville Flats, N. Y., and the third, Frankie, married Milan D. Tallett and now lives in the city of Minneapolis, Kansas. Dr. M. R. Smith moved to Cincinnatus in 1858, where he now practices medicine. He has for the last two years been president of the County Medical Society, and is now a member of the New York State Medical Association.

White, jr., David, p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, dairy and stock dealer, born in Cincinnatus in 1816. Parents, David and Tamor (Waters) White, natives of Westchester county. His wife, Sarah (Briggs) White, daughter of John and Margaret (Jones) Briggs, was born in Willet in 1820, married in 1842. One son, James White, born in 1851, married Julia C. Tracy in 1876; one child, Willie J. White, born in 1879.

White, Stephen, p. o. Cincinnatus, saw-mill, and dealer in lumber, born in Chenango county in 1831, settled in county in 1848; wife, Eliza M. Hillard, born in 1837; married in 1854, children ten. Parents, Jacob and Martha (Mack) White. Stephen White began the lumber business in 1866, purchased his present site and erected his mill, 72 by 18, and now has an extended custom business.

CUYLER.

Allen, Harvey B., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 157 acres, born in Petersburgh, N. Y., in 1836, settled in Cuyler in 1860. Was assessor, and held the office of postmaster at South Cuyler; wife, Mary J. Phillips, daughter of Rodney and Phœbe (Monroe) Phillips; married in 1856, children three: Ella M., Eva S., and Wells H. Parents, James and Susannah (Phillips) Allen, of New Albany, Pa.

Andrews, Harlan P., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 250 acres, born in Fabius in 1837, settled in county in 1860; was assessor two terms, is present supervisor; wife, Phœbe P. Brown, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Bogardus) Brown, of Cuyler; married in 1860, children three: Burnett

B., Myrta I. and Lina P.; second wife, Marion Bogardus, daughter of Israel R. and Irene (Brown) Bogardus, of Ill.; married in 1870, children three: Howard I., Mildred E., and Irene.

Babcock, Isaac C., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 58 acres, born in Fabius in 1824; wife, Mary A. Fairbanks, daughter of Arad Fairbanks, of Cuyler; married in 1849, children four, one living: John W. Parents, Benjamin T., and Polly (Cale) Babcock, pioneers of Fabius.

Baldwin, William, p. o. Cuyler, farmer and lumber dealer, born in Lincklaen, Chenango county, in 1843, settled here in 1873, was supervisor of Cuyler in 1883; wife, Emma C. Randall, daughter of Zebulon C. and Polly (Congden) Randall, of Chenango county; married in 1868, children three: Vinnie R., William N., and Julia. Parents, Joseph and Mary (Newell) Baldwin, natives of Yorkshire, England, who came here in 1829.

Brown, Benjamin, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, 300 acres, born in Truxton in 1814, and died in June, 1878; wife, Sarah, born in Truxton in 1818, daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Tripp) Bogardus; the former was born in Duchess county, the latter in Columbia county; married in 1836, children eleven. Parents, Seabury and Polly (Fox) Brown, natives of Connecticut.

Brown, John W., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 125 acres, born in Cuyler in 1817; wife, Polly Whitmarsh, daughter of Silas and Charlotte (Vincent) Whitmarsh; children five: Wesley, a resident of Cuyler, married Alice Gates, of Pompey, in 1849, Eva A. married Volney Vincent in 1863, Sarah R. married Hiram Gibbs in 1868, Stephen, a resident of Cuyler, married Mary C. Tucker in 1875, John A., a resident of Pompey, married Nora V. Stillman, of Cuyler, in 1878. Parents, John and Jamima (Hollenbeck) Brown; both were born in 1771.

Brown, Seabury F., p. o. Cuyler, of the firm of Brown Brothers, proprietors of steam gristmill, born in Cuyler in 1854; wife, Ida M. Morse, daughter of Addison and Maria (Hamilton) Morse, who were among the early settlers of the town; married in 1878, one child, Sarah W. Parents, Benjamin and Sarah (Bogardus) Brown, early settlers of Cuyler.

Colgrove, Eli J., p. o. Cuyler, manufacturer of lumber and farmer, born in Cuyler in 1842; wife, Anna J. Kenyon, daughter of Joseph L. and Sally M. (Chase) Kenyon, of Pitcher, Chenango county, married in 1878. Parents, Eli S. and Sally B. (Wilcox) Colgrove.

Dunce, Alexander, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, born in Schenectady in 1809, settled in county in 1839, was constable and collector, town superintendent of schools, justice of the peace, supervisor nine terms, chairman of the board one year, and notary public since 1869; wife, Nancy M. Turner, of Madison county; married in 1840 and died in 1875; second wife, Mrs. Pierce, daughter of Joseph and Huldah Allen, of Cuyler; married in 1877.

Farrington, Edward, p. o. De Ruyter, farmer, owns 130 acres, born in Flushing, L. I., in 1821, settled in Cuyler in 1850; wife, Mary Hill, daughter of Daniel and Ruth Hill, who died in 1864; one child, Maria L., now Mrs. James Tripp, of Marathon; second wife, Emelina Clark, daughter of Josephus Clark, of Fabius, Onondaga county.

Fuller, Adelbert, p. o. Cuyler, postmaster and general merchant, born in Taylor in 1837, was justice of peace; wife, Sarah Porter, daughter of Daniel and Aseneth Porter, of Taylor; married in 1864, children three: Allie, Fred A., and May. Parents, Sullivan and Polly (Cole) Fuller, of Taylor.

Irish, Elias B., p. o. De Ruyter, farmer, owns 215 acres, was assessor several terms; wife, Almira Muncy, daughter of James and Esther (Clark) Muncy, early settlers of this town; married in 1845, children two: Elsie C., now Mrs. Charles J. York, of Cuyler, and Oscar J., of Iowa. Parents, Elias and Catherine (Coon) Irish, natives of Rhode Island, who settled here in 1814.

Keeler, Nelson, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 430 acres, was assessor, and is present justice of peace; wife, Sarah R. Harris, daughter of Evan and Sally (Bragg) Harris; married in 1849, children living five: M. J., Anna J., now Mrs. John Davis, of Truxton, Ada, Frank N., and Alta. Parents, Martin and Anna (Woodruff) Keeler, who came from Massachusetts in 1795.

Knapp, Clarence N., p. o. Cuyler, dealer in agricultural implements, stoves and house furnish-

ing goods, born in Spafford, Onondaga county, in 1836, was town clerk of Cuyler for nine years; wife, Olivia L. Barber, daughter of Silas M. and Phœbe (Burdick) Barber, of Scott, married in 1858. Parents, Peter and Saberah (Babcock) Knapp, of Spafford.

Morse, William A., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 443 acres, born in Cuyler in 1827, was assessor; wife, Maria Hamilton, of New Berlin; married in 1850, children three: Orlando E., Elba A., now Mrs. John McCallister, of Cuyler, Ida, now Mrs. S. F. Brown, of Cuyler. Parents, William and Betsey (Hills) Morse, natives of Cuyler. Grandfather, David Morse, came from New Jersey to Cuyler in 1793.

Patrick, John W., son of Hon. Stephen and Angelina Patrick, was born in town of Truxton, in 1841, enlisted on the 26th day of April, 1861, being the first enlistment in the town, was in the first company raised in the county during the Rebellion, was discharged as sergeant at Elmira, May 26th, 1863, on account of expiration of term of service, came to Cuyler in 1864, owns the Patrick homestead consisting of 431 acres, which was deeded by the State to Penelope Patrick for services rendered by her father; was married in 1866 to Agnes, daughter of John and Anna Robbins, of Truxton; has three children living: Stella A., Wesley B., and William K.; has held the offices of assessor and supervisor of the town.

Pease, Elijah, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 102 acres, born in Eaton in 1821, settled in county in 1856; wife, Lucy Ann Hamilton, daughter of Alexander and Lydia (Dutton) Hamilton, of Georgetown; married in 1849, children two: D. Edgar, of Cuyler, and George F. Parents, William and Ruth (Vinton) Pease, of Eaton, N. Y.

Petrie, Adam, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 200 acres, settled in county in 1825, has been assessor; wife, Lucinda Kinney, daughter of Thos. and Elmira (Brown) Kinney; married in 1847, one child, Belle, now Mrs. Eugene Curtis, of Cortland. Parents, Abraham and Nancy (Harter) Petrie.

Potter, Oliver C., p. o. South Cuyler, farmer, owns 170 acres, born in Richfield, Otsego county, N. Y., in 1817, came to county in 1822; wife, Amelia U. Hyer, daughter of Chas. and Betsey (Cleveland) Hyer, of Guilford, N. Y.; married in 1858, one child, Helen L., now Mrs. Edward H. Knapp, of Onondaga county. Parents, Charles and Perlina (Carver) Potter, natives of R. I.

Risley, Wait, p. o. Cuyler, born in Cuyler, January 11th, 1820; farmer, owns 390 acres; wife Eunice J. Vincent, daughter of Cornelius and Harriet (Smith) Vincent; married in 1865, children two: Lena B., and Grant W. Parents, Waite and Polly Risley, natives of Connecticut.

Smith, David C., p. o. Kenney, farmer, owns 268 acres, born in Lincklaen, Chenango county, in 1842, settled in Cortland county in 1869, is present assessor; wife, Emeline Jones, daughter of William and Mary Jones, of Truxton; married in 1869, children four: Nellie, Fannie, Hattie, and Richard. Parents, William and Lovina (Congdon) Smith, of Lincklaen.

Steel, George G., p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 300 acres, born in Herkimer county in 1812, came to county in 1842, and died in 1880; wife, Mary Ann Putman, of Danube, N. Y.; married in 1834, children ten, nine living: Cornelius, John, Elias, Elizabeth, now Mrs. Cyrus Smith, of Truxton, George W., Almonzo, Mary, now Mrs. Theodore De Barr, of Truxton, Maria, now Mrs. Vincent Heath, of Cuyler.

Whitmarsh, Hon. Hiram, p. o. Cuyler, farmer, owns 280 acres, born in Cuyler in 1830, was assessor and supervisor in the year 1867, and member of assembly in the year 1869; wife, Zelia D. Brown, daughter of Seabury and Polly (Fox) Brown, of Cuyler; married in 1854, children four: Carrie, Jesse B., Fred C., and Paul L. Parents, Job and Arvilla (Wheat) Whitmarsh, who were among the first settlers of Cuyler.

FREETOWN.

Borthwick, Marcus, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer, born in Middleburg, Schoharie county, Dec. 1st, 1830, was supervisor in 1844, and town auditor several years; wife, Charlotte Carter, daughter of Eleazer and Sarah (Curtis) Carter, born in Onondaga county in 1833; married in 1867, one daughter. Parents, Andrew and Sally Bushnell Borthwick, natives of Schoharie county, who settled in Freetown in 1832; children nine.

Brainard, Alanson, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and retired dairyman, born in Herkimer county in 1820, settled in county in 1867; wife, Maria A. Legg, born in Massachusetts in 1824; married in 1844; children seven: Josephine M., George W., Henry H., Joshua B., David L., Arthur E., and Charles J.; George W. died in 1873, Henry H. enlisted in the 186th Regiment N. Y. V., in 1864, and David L., joined the Greeley expedition in exploring the Arctic regions; he reached Lat. 3.24, N. Long. 40.46, W., the most northern point reached by any explorer; he was rescued with the remainder of the Greeley survivors June 22d, 1884. Parents of Alanson Brainard were: Joshua and Freelove (Ellis) Brainard, natives of Connecticut, who settled in Herkimer county in 1800 where they died.

Eaton, Calvin, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and dairyman, owns 230 acres, born in Ashford, Windham Co., Conn., in 1808, settled in county in 1847, was commissioner four years, and assessor six years; wife, Caroline H. Campbell, born in Willett in 1827; married in 1849, children four: Florilla D., born in 1850, Estella, born in 1856, Frank, born in 1861, Fred, born in 1866. Parents, James and Fannie (Rickards) Eaton, natives of Connecticut, who came to New York in 1815; the former died in Otsego county, the latter in Freetown.

Edwards, Joseph D., p. o. Texas Valley, farmer, born in Freetown in 1850; wife, Louisa Maynard, daughter of Madison B. and Maria Maynard, born in Virgil in 1854; married in 1874, children two: Wellington F. and Wesley J. Parents, Stephen and Sally (Bowdish) Edwards, the former born in Cincinnatus in 1821, died in 1883, the latter born in Newstead in 1819.

Grant, Philander D., p. o. East Freetown, P. M. and retired contractor-builder, born in Freetown in 1832, has been postmaster eighteen years, constable seven years, and held other district offices; wife, Joanna Hickey, born in Hoboken in 1832; married January 2d, 1851, children two: Ellen F., born October 8th, 1851, and Emmet C., born September 11th, 1856. Parents, Miner and Ziba Underwood, the former born in 1806, the latter in 1808; married in 1828, children nine.

Harvey, Thomas, p. o. Freetown, farmer and stock dealer, carpenter and builder, born in England in 1824, settled in county in 1832; wife, Mrs. Sarah (Cameron) Livingston, born in Freetown in 1837; married in 1875, one child, Eugene L. Parents, William and Sarah (Starkey) Harvey, natives of England, came to Freetown with six children in 1832, the former died in 1862, aged seventy-two years, the latter died in 1852.

Madison, Eri, p. o. Texas Valley, farmer, born in Blenheim, Schoharie county, in 1821, educated at a common school, taught school from 1842 till 1848 in the winter; married Harriet Carter, daughter of Ezra and Dimmis Carter, February, 1848; was elected justice of peace in 1834, and in 1856 was elected supervisor and re-elected in 1857, since which time he has held various town offices. Parents, David and Rebecca (Hull) Madison, the former born in Rensselaer county in 1788 and died in 1866; the latter died in 1881, aged eighty-five; her father was Ebenezer Hull, came from Connecticut. Grandfather David Madison, sr., was born in Delaware county, and his parents were among the first settlers in the town of Middletown.

Martin, Aldin, p. o. East Freetown, farmer and dairyman, born in Freetown in 1853; wife, Amy E. Hammond, daughter of John and Evaline Hammond, born in 1856; married in 1880, one child, Carrie E. Parents, Simmons and Lucy (Wildman) Martin, the former born in Conn. in 1807, came to county in 1813, the latter born in 1817, children six.

Metzgar James, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and dairyman, born in Northampton county, Pa., in 1818, settled in county in 1839; wife, Clarissa M. Wildman, daughter of Marcus and Sibyl (Rogers) Wildman; married in 1842, children four: Lucetta M., Tryphena A., Almeron H. and Ina E. Parents, Jonas and Mary (Merwin) Metzgar, natives of Northampton county, Penn.

Seeber, James H., p. o. Freetown, farmer and stock dealer, born in Freetown in 1833, was supervisor two terms, assessor six years, and held other offices; wife, Martha Smith, daughter of Giles M., born in Marathon in 1833; married in 1857, died in 1870, leaving two children: Clayton W., and Arthur A.; second wife, Mrs. Jane

Smith, daughter of Daniel and Emeline Wightman married in 1870, one child, Martha E. Parents, James and Eliza Stephens, the former born in Schoharie county, the latter in Oneida county; children six. Grandparents, Sophrenus and Elizabeth Seeber, natives of Schoharie county, came to Freetown in 1820, and settled on James H.'s present farm of 300 acres; children six.

Slocum, Ransom, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and dairy, born in Oneida county in 1825, settled in county in 1853, was assessor three years, and held other district offices; wife, Celestia M. Hopkins, born in Oneida county in 1828; married in 1854, children five: Frank R., Emily C., Charles H., Nelson H., and Edgar J. Frank R., married Susan Dietrich. Parents, Henry and Sally (Bull) Slocum; the former was born in Vermont, and is still living, the latter was born in Oneida county, and died in 1876; children eight, six living.

Smith, Chauncey, p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and dairyman, born in Freetown in 1837, was supervisor three years; wife, Mary Parker, born in Vermont, married in 1863, and died in 1873, leaving two children: Lettie and Lucinda; second wife, Ella Lampher, born in 1856; children four: Mary, Dudley C., Walter and Clark. Parents, Dudley and Nancy M. (Carpenter) Smith, the former born in Norway, Herkimer county, N. Y., came to Freetown in 1837, died in 1873, aged 68 years; the latter died in 1879, aged 68 years; children seven.

Tanner, George J., p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer and inventor and patentee of the milk tester, owns 170 acres, born in Trenton in 1836, settled in county in 1840, was assessor four years; wife, Dimmes Carter, daughter of Augustine and Olive (Richardson) Carter, born in 1845; married in 1863, children eight. Parents L.D. and Mary (Holliday) Tanner, the former of Herkimer county, settled in Freetown in 1840, and was a Methodist Episcopal clergyman for many years.

Tarbell, William N., p. o. East Freetown, farmer, born in Freetown in 1857, is justice of peace; wife, Genevieve Hill, born in Will county, Illinois, in 1857; married Sept. 19th, 1877, one son, Leon J., born March 24th, 1879. Parents, Lorenzo and Julia (Cameron) Tarbell, the former born in Groton in 1819, was justice of peace twelve years, the latter born in 1821, married in 1840 and died in 1877; children six. Grandfather, Daniel Tarbell, settled in Freetown in 1835.

Underwood, Alanson, p. o. East Freetown, retired farmer, owns 400 acres, born in Edmonson, N. Y., in 1806, settled in county in 1813; wife, Laura Stafford, born in Otsego county in 1807; married in 1829, children eleven, seven now living: Joseph, Alanson jr., and Susan (twins), Lyman, Lewis, Levina and Laura. Parents, Vander and Jerusha (Wood) Underwood, the former born in Woodstock, Conn., in 1781, and died in April, 1862, the latter born in Mansfield, Vt., in 1781, married Nov. 17th, 1803, and died in 1847; children seventeen.

Underwood, Vander, jr., p. o. McGrawville, farmer and stock grower, born in Freetown in 1821, is a large land owner in Mississippi; wife, Julia A. Grant, daughter of Russell and Betsey (Loveless) Grant, born in Freetown in 1825; married in 1846, children six, three now living: Electa, Betsey and Louisa. Parents, Vander and Jerusha (Wood) Underwood.

Watrous, Benjamin B., p. o. Freetown Corners, retired farmer, born in Washington county in 1803, settled in county in 1811, held many district offices and was a deacon in the Baptist Church for many years; wife, Elizabeth Lampher, born in Munson, Mass., in 1803; married in 1824, children twelve, six now living: Laura Jane, born in 1826, Emerette in 1832, Benjamin F. in 1840, Jerusha in 1842, Austin A. in 1846, Edgar A. in 1848. Parents, Austin and Sally (Backus) Watrous, natives of Connecticut, the former born in 1778, and died in 1864, the latter born in 1781, and died in 1844.

Watrous, Leonard J., p. o. Freetown Corners, farmer, born in Freetown in 1834; wife, Emaline Slocum, daughter of Henry and Sally (Bull) Slocum, born in Oneida county in 1832; married in 1864, children two: Roscoe, born Aug. 28th, 1870, and died in 1879, and Addie Luella. Parents, Joseph and Lydia (Leach) Watrous, the former born in Washington county in 1801, settled in Freetown in 1810 with his parents; children seven.

Wildman, Joseph, p. o. East Freetown, born in Freetown in 1809, and died March 9th, 1878; wife, Mrs. Ann Eva Van Slyke, daughter of John and Lydia (Marenus) Van Slyke, born in Otsego county in 1821; married in 1838, children five: Rollin, born in 1839, Josephine A., born in 1841, Mahalah, born in 1843, Marcus N. in 1844, and King L. in 1847, who married Margaret Metzgar in 1873; children four. Parents, Joseph and Mindwell Wildman. Grandfather Wildman was one of the first settlers in the old town of Cincinnatus.

Woods, Elisha, jr., p. o. Freetown Corners, retired boot and shoe manufacturer, born in Bainbridge, N. Y., in 1804, settled in county in 1813, was deputy sheriff, collector four years, constable ten years, and held other offices; wife, Sally Montgomery, daughter of James and Barbara (Moon) Montgomery, of Rhode Island, born in 1802; married in 1824, children seven, five now living: Silvester, Lydia, Sherman, Eliza, and E. B. Parents, Elisha and Hannah (Spencer) Woods, natives of Vermont, settled in Chenango county in 1789, children six. Elisha was a Revolutionary soldier and one of General Washington's body guards. He died in 1842.

HARFORD.

Bradley, Horace W., p. o. Harford, steam lumber, planing, lath, flour, feed, and shingle mill, owns 400 acres, born in New Haven, Conn., in 1844, settled in county in 1853; wife, Elizabeth M. Sutton, born in England in 1849, came to America with parents in 1852, who located in Chautauqua county, N. Y.; married in 1868, children four. Parents, Woodward and E. (Hemmingway) Bradley, the former born in Conn. in 1806, died in 1852, the latter was a daughter of Col. Jacob and Eunice Hemmingway, early settlers of county. H. W. Bradley enlisted in Co. E, 157th N. Y. Vols. in 1862, was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, served to close of war and was discharged, after which he spent some years in the Penn. oil regions, then returned to Harford and purchased his mill and has since done a very extensive business.

Brown, Homer J., p. o. Harford, farmer and dealer in farm implements, born in Harford in 1840, has been town clerk; wife, Georgia Dickenson, born in 1839; married in 1867, died in 1874, leaving two children: J. Grove and Grace D; second wife, Eva D. Lathrop, married in 1876. Parents, Dexter and Betsey (Holden) Brown, the former born in 1815, the latter in 1813; married in 1838, children two. Grandparents, Josiah and Sophia (Graves) Brown.

Brown, Norton L., p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Harford in 1820; wife, Judith Edminister, daughter of Henry and Mary (Barnes) Edminister, born in Harford in 1824; married in 1842, children four: De Ette L., Abbie R., Dexter D., and Charles J. (deceased). Parents, Morris and Matilda (Holden) Brown, the former born in Chenango county in 1799 and died March 23d, 1883, the latter born in Maine in 1799, married in 1819, children three. Grandparents, Josiah and Sophia (Graves) Brown, natives of Mass., who settled in county in 1814.

Burlingame, Charles C., p. o. Harford Mills, farmer, born in Windham county, Conn., in 1838, settled in county in 1853, has been justice of the peace, and held other minor offices; wife, Mary C. Griswold, daughter of Rev. William and Lovina (Kilner) Griswold, born in Tioga county, in 1842; married in 1861, children two: Hattie L., and Nettie J. Parents, Peter and Harriet (Dean) Burlingame, the former was a minister and settled in Harford in 1853, wife died in 1853; second wife, Nancy Brown, of Homer, married in 1855, children two. Charles C. Burlingame enlisted in Co. E, 157th Reg., under Col. P. P. Brown, in August, 1862, served three years, was promoted to lieutenant and afterward to captain.

Bushnell, H. T., p. o. Harford, dealer in dry goods, groceries, hardware, clothing, boots and shoes and all farm implements, born in Ohio in 1843, was supervisor in 1884, and had previously held the offices of town clerk, notary public and constable; wife, Jennie H. Hollett, born in 1839; married in 1868, one child, Charles Laverne. Parents, Lewis and Elizabeth (Treat) Bushnell, of Ohio. H. T. Bushnell began the mercantile business in Harford in 1872 and in 1880 became a partner with Samuel N. Holden; the business is now conducted under the name of Holden & Bushnell.

Clinton, Austin W., p. o. Harford Mills, dealer in lumber, born in Newark Valley, in 1850; settled in county in 1875, has been supervisor; wife, Alice Davis, of Scranton, married in 1875. Parents, R. W. and Anna (Knapp) Clinton; Children three: A. W., Arthur, who married Addie Roys, and Ella who married Morris Elwell. R. W. Clinton's Sons began the lumber trade in Harford in 1872, a fire destroyed their mill in 1880, a new one was erected, the main building of which is 80x32, two stories high, the other 50x26, two stories high, run by steam which also heats their dwelling houses, as well as their store and office, the sawdust is used for fuel. They run six circular saws, a planing and lath mill, and own 500 acres of timber and farming land. They have a very extensive trade in the eastern markets and N. J., where they make a specialty of furnishing lumber for building and government purposes. Austin W. was a graduate of Cornell University in 1872, was professor of natural science in Kingston, Penn., traveled in Europe, visiting nine different countries, returned and settled at his present business in 1875. The brothers are now building a mill at Pike Mills, Pa., with a capacity of one hundred thousand feet per day.

Corbin, Joseph, p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Connecticut, October 22d, 1799, settled in county in 1858, on a farm of 70 acres, and died May 22d, 1883; wife, Ellen Loomis, born in Smithville, N. Y., Feb. 15th, 1803; married Sept. 6th, 1820, died Aug. 27th, 1876, leaving four children: Betsey, born in 1824, John in 1826, Mary A. in 1827, and Lois A. in 1833; John enlisted in the 157th regiment in 1862, and served to close of war; married Elizabeth A. Ford, children two; Betsey married Andrew Smith and resides in Taylor, Cortland county; children six.

Culver, George W., p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Truxton in 1825; wife, Mary M. Lason, born in 1824; married in 1850, children four: Viola, John, Lizzie and Willie. Parents, Simon B. and Betsey (Vincent) Culver, the former born in New Jersey in 1798, the latter born in Herkimer county in 1804; married in 1821, children six. Grandparents, George and Jemina (Morse) Culver, natives of New Jersey, settled in Truxton in 1802, purchased 100 acres of land at $3.44 per acre.

Edmonds, Jonathan C., p. o. Harford, grocer and general market for flour, seeds and all staple articles; born in Saratoga county in 1842, was town clerk three years, assessor one term, commissioner three terms, deputy sheriff one year and constable for several years; wife, Emma Holden, daughter of Benjamin and Maria (Lathrop) Holden, born in 1844; married in 1862, one child, Nellie. Parents, Frances and Eliza (Burge) Edmonds, who settled in Harford in 1854. J. C. Edmonds began the grocery business in 1879, and he still continues to deal in all leading goods.

Hemenway, Morris B., p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Harford in 1834; wife, Bethesda B. Rood, daughter of Josiah W. and Bethesda (Bliss) Rood, born in Otsego county in 1837; married in 1866, one child, Carrie A. Parents, Lyman and Rachael (Holden) Hemenway, the former born in 1804, settled in county in 1821, married in 1827 and died in 1871, children six; the latter still resides on the farm they first purchased with her son Morris.

Holden, Luther, p. o. Harford, farmer and dealer in blooded stock, born in Harford in 1849; wife, Sarah Hartson, daughter of Samuel and Evaline (Winters) Hartson, born in Pennsylvania in 1848; married in 1870, children two: Berdette, born Jan. 13th, 1872, and Ada, born Oct. 27th, 1878, and died Sept. 30th, 1884. Parents, Benjamin and Maria (Lathrop) Holden; the former died in January, 1875, the latter in 1878; children two: Emma born in 1844, and Luther born in 1849.

Holden, Samuel N., p. o. Harford, dealer in general merchandise and all kinds of farm implements, born in county in 1844; wife, Lillian Wattles, daughter of Glover P. Wattles, born in 1854; married in 1872, one child, Jennie, who died in Sept., 1875, aged 14 months, and an adopted daughter, Agnes Louise. Parents, Walter and Relief (Tanner) Holden; the former born in Maine in 1803, and died in 1880, the latter born in 1806, and died in 1851, leaving ten children, three now living. Grandparents, Benjamin and Emma (Farwell) Holden, the former of Maine and the latter of Boston, settled in Harford in 1813; children twelve.

Holdridge, Enoch J., p. o. Harford, farmer

and carpenter, born in Madison county in 1827, settled in county in 1830, was assessor twelve years and elected justice in 1881; wife, Clarissa Terpening, daughter of Noah and Polly Terpening, born in Virgil in 1825; married Nov. 10th, 1850, children two: Medora, born in 1856, and A. Eugene, born in 1864; Medora married Sherman Grennell in 1877. Parents, Daniel and Anna (Chaffee) Holdridge, the former died Oct. 3d, 1882, and the latter died in 1846, leaving nine children, six now living.

Johnson, Philo A., p. o. Harford, born in Virgil in 1818; wife, Ruth Lincoln, born in 1819; married Oct. 6th, 1842, died March 4th, 1862, leaving eight children; second wife, Caroline Seymour, born in 1824, married in 1863. Parents, Eli and Lucretia (Smith) Johnson; the former born in Otsego county in 1792 and died in 1875, the latter in 1794 and died in 1875; married in 1813, children nine, four now living: Ezra I., Horace B., Philo A., and Marrilla.

Knapp, John H., M. D., p. o. Harford, physician and surgeon, born in Fairfield in 1819, was member of assembly in 1854–55, supervisor three terms, and held other town offices for many years; wife, Sarah Wattles, of Broome county, born June 5th, 1826; married Dec. 24th, 1844, children four, all died in infancy. Parents, Amme P. and Polly (Hull) Knapp, natives of Connecticut, who settled in Chenango county in 1822. The former died in 1872, aged 84, wife still living, aged 88 years. Dr. J. H. Knapp read medicine in Sherburne, and attended lectures at Albany Medical College; commenced practice at Marathon in 1843, and in 1845 went to Etna, Tompkins county, and in 1849 returned to Cortland and settled in Harford, where he now resides, having a large practice.

McPherson, John, p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Orange county in 1837, settled in county in 1878, has been assessor and excise commissioner; wife, Isabetta Shaw, born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, in 1843; married in 1861, children seven: George B., Frank E., Elizabeth M., Sarah G., Ada B., Robert O. and Edward T. Parents, Robert and Mary E. (Coleman) McPherson, born in Orange county, the former in 1812, and the latter in 1818, married in 1835; children two: John and Emma, the latter born in 1842, married Theron G. Wilcox in 1864.

Purvis, Robert, p. o. Harford, farmer, sheep and stock dealer; born in Otsego county in 1825, settled in county in 1830, was supervisor, school superintendent and held many town offices; wife, Jennie M. Bouton, daughter of Nathaniel, jr., and Julia E. (Southworth) Bouton, born in Marathon in 1842, married in 1881. Parents, Andrew and Nancy (Hale) Purvis; the former born in Scotland, came to America in 1809, the latter born in Rhode Island, married in 1812, moved to Otsego county in 1822, settled in Harford in 1830; children seven, two now living.

Rood, Josiah W., p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Schoharie county, Feb. 19th, 1806, settled in county in 1840, was supervisor, assessor and held other offices, and died in 1880; wife, Bethesda Bliss, married March 28th, 1830, and died Feb. 7th, 1837, leaving three children: Alonzo W., born in 1833, Amanda M., born in 1835, Bethesda B., born in 1837; second wife, Lucy McFarland, born in 1813; married May 30th, 1838, children three: Lorin W., born in 1839, Lucy A., born in 1844, and Mary E. Rood, born Jan. 20th, 1850. Parents, Ezra and Parthena Rood, of Massachusetts; the former died in Otsego county and the latter in Homer.

Rood, Lorin W., p. o. Harford, farmer, stock dealer and dairy produce, owns 350 acres; born in Plainfield, April 4th, 1839, settled in county in 1840; wife, Abbie Decker, born in 1841; married in 1862, children three: Hattie, born Dec. 14th, 1863, Minnie and Myrtie (twins), born June 12th, 1872. Parents, Josiah W. Rood and Lucy (McFarland) Rood, who settled in Harford in 1838.

Strong, Erastus S., p. o. Harford, farmer and retired teacher, holds a state certificate since June 23d, 1856, over signature of V. M. Rice. Born in Cato in 1821, settled in county in 1846, was assessor twelve years, justice of peace sixteen years, teacher eleven years; wife, Elizabeth L. Tryon, born in Cayuga county in 1821; married in 1845, children five, four now living: Sarah C., who married Reuben Shepard, Horatio W., who married Adelpha Frank, and Francis E., who married Mary Shevaleer, and Asa H., now living at home. Parents, Erastus and Catharine (Kelly) Strong; the former born in Galway

in 1795, and died in 1822, the latter born in 1798 and died in 1834.

Tyler, A. W., p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Virgil in 1838, was assessor and town clerk two terms each; wife, Mary E. Branch, daughter of Enoch and Matilda (Mynard) Branch, born in 1845; married in 1868, children three: Martha A., John B. and J. Hart Tyler. Parents, Jeremiah and Mahalah (Burlingame) Tyler; the former born in 1807, settled in Virgil in 1810, the latter born in 1812.

Wavle, James H., p. o. Harford, farmer and stock dealer, born in Freetown in 1826; wife, Emeline Coleman, born in Orange county in 1822; married in 1849, died April 24th, 1872, leaving six children; second wife, Emma Valentine, born in Marathon, married in 1880. Parents, Andrew and Eva (Smith) Wavle, the former born in Schoharie county, settled in Cortland county in 1818, and died in 1840, the latter died in 1879, leaving four children.

Weiler, George Frederick, p. o. Harford, farmer, born in Baden, Germany, Oct. 20th, 1833, settled in county in 1854, has held several district offices, and has been steward of the M. E. Church twenty years; wife, Harriet L. Reed, daughter of Asa D. and Marina (Curtis) Reed, born August 15th, 1829; married Jan. 22d, 1860, children two: Florence R., born Feb. 19th, 1862, and C. Franklin, born Aug. 10th, 1872. Parents, Jacob and Rosenna (Carterer) Weiler, of Baden, Germany. Frederick was penniless when he landed in New York, but through his own exertions and prudence has accumulated a large property and is now the possessor of several hundred acres of land, and has the confidence of the community where he resides, and has paid liberally for benevolent purposes.

Wilcox, Theron G., p. o. Harford, stock dealer and dairy, owns 140 acres, born in Smithville in 1842; settled in county in 1868, was highway commissioner one term and held other district offices; wife, Emma McPherson, daughter of Robert and Mary McPherson, born in 1842; married in 1864, children two: Eddie and John. Parents, Simon G. and Hannah (Loomis) Wilcox; the former of Oxford, died in 1883, aged 72, the latter died in 1867, leaving eight children.

HOMER.

Abbott, Alfred, p. o. Homer, owns 70 acres, dealer in live stock, born in Homer in 1818; wife, Esther H. Bowen; married in 1841, children four: Irving, Cornelia (now Mrs. Henry Keeling), of Homer, Oresta (Mrs. Elias Frisbie), of Scott, Frank H., Lillie (now Mrs. Wesley Holmes), of Earlville.

Alvord, Henry S., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 120 acres, born in Homer in 1826; wife, Mary C. Smith, of Fabius; married in 1852, children two: Lucy M., and Hattie E.

Alvord, Lucius, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 300 acres, born in Homer in 1832; wife, Sylvina Brown, daughter of Moses and Sarah (Matteson) Brown; married in 1856, children four: Mrs. Eugene Eaton, of Cayuga county, Llyn, Millie M., and Benette B. Grandfather Ebenezer Alvord was born in Farmington, Conn., in 1767, and came to Homer in 1794.

Atkinson, Geo., p. o. East River, farmer, owns 213 acres, born in England in 1814, settled in county in 1860; wife, Isabella King, of Martindale, England; married in 1860, children seven: Maria A. (Mrs. John Onsby), of Tully, Jennie, Geo. K., Isabella A., James, William and Mary E.

Babcock, Oscar A., p. o. Homer, grocer, born in De Ruyter in June, 1838, settled in county in 1849, was second sergeant in Co. H, 157th N. Y. S. V., enlisted in Aug., 1862, discharged at close of war; wife, Laurette L. Maltby; married June 5th, 1866, children three: Lydia L., born in 1867, Maud E., and Mabel J. (twins), in 1871.

Bates, Alexander, p. o. Homer, carriage and sleigh manufacturer, born in Washington county in 1814, settled in county in 1817, was drum-major in 157th N. Y. S. V.; wife, Lavina Yale, a descendant of the Yale who founded Yale college; married in 1834, children eight: George W., William H. (deceased), Lury M., William E., (Prof. of music in Columbus, Ind.), Helen L., J. Franklin, of Iowa, Newton A., John E., and Charles H.

Barker, Albert, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 106 acres, born in Washington county, January 8th, 1800, removed to Oneida county when five years old, settled on the same farm where he now resides in 1837, married to Sophronia East-

man in Paris, Oneida county, June 20th, 1822, who died in March, 1884. There were six children, four of which are still living: Mercy, the eldest, married H. G. Short, now living in Tioga county, Pa.; Luther E., now living on the old homestead; Carrie A. died in 1864; Jennie E., wife of M. N. Allen, Titusville Pa., died in Sept. 1884; Martha L., wife of William Crandall, of Minnesota; and Albert C., of Minnesota.

Beach, William B., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 226 acres, born in Homer in 1827; wife, Mary E. Hammon; married in 1854, children three: Jenny E., Ida M., and Clarissa O. Father Nathaniel Beach was born in 1790, came to county in 1820, and died Oct. 4th, 1873.

Bell, Robert, p. o. Homer, born in England, came to Homer in 1858, and died in 1883; wife, Jannett Harkness, of Dunfrieshire, Scotland; married Nov. 17th, 1865, children three: John H., Jennie H., and Fannie E.

Blashfield, H. W., p. o. Homer, manufacturer of lumber and cider, owns 95 acres, born in Homer in 1830, was supervisor one term, justice of peace twenty-five years; wife, Lura M. Bates, born in Lenox; married in 1854, children two: Nellie L., and Frank E. Father William Blashfield came to Homer in 1802, from Brimfield, Mass., and died in 1864.

Brockway, Henry S., p. o. Homer, Supt. Brockway Wagon and Sleigh Manufacturing Co., born in Groton, Nov. 19th, 1839, settled in county in 1842; wife, Francis L. Hoyt; married in 1867, one child, Harry L.

Brockway, W. N., p. o. Homer, manufacturer of wagons and sleighs, born in Cortland in 1829, was trustee of the village of Homer; wife, Edith Hine, of Preble, N. Y.; married in 1860, children four, living: Florence I., Geo. A., Josie A., and Fannie M.

Burnham, Marvin, p. o. East Homer, honey producer, born in Homer in 1811; wife, Caroline C. Webster, of Truxton; married in 1836, children three: U. A., who was first lieutenant in Co. D, 76th N. Y. S. V., E. A., in Co. A, 76th N. Y. S. V., and Josephene A. (now Mrs. Benjamin Bennett), of Syracuse.

Burnham, Shepard C., p. o. East Homer, owns 133 acres, farmer, born in Homer in 1850; wife, Anna J. Griffeth, born in 1855, daughter of Abram B. and Jane E. (Alexander) Griffeth, of Homer; married in 1874, children three: Edna S., born in 1876, Jennie, born in 1881, and Albert G., born in 1884. Parents, William H., of Homer, and Harriet M. (Crane) Burnham, of Marathon.

Butler, Ralph, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 122 acres, born in Cayuga county in 1848; wife, Addie Mott, of Cayuga county; married in 1871, children four: Elmer A., who died Feb. 17th, 1875, Eddie G., who died in 1877, Bertha L., and Leve J. Ralph Butler is living on the old homestead owned by his father, Edmond C., who was an immigrant from Connecticut, and first settled in Cayuga county in 1838, came to county in 1848. He died in 1865; wife died in 1877.

Byram, Samuel M., p. o. Cortland, grist and saw-mill, born in Virgil, in 1837, was supervisor of Virgil; wife, Laura Scott, born in Cortland; married in 1868, children three: Nellie S., Willie S., and Charles J. Parents, Josiah and Rhoda Byram, who came from Broome county to Virgil in 1828.

Carl, Harry, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 117 acres, born in Homer in 1816; wife, Lucy Dunbar, of Solon; married in 1852, died in April 1883; children three: Porter E., Lettie E., and Adelbert D.

Carl, Jacob, p. o. Cortland, farmer, owns 100 acres, born in Locke, Cayuga county, in 1807, settled in county in 1836; wife, Eliza Lascels, of Haverstraw; married in 1836, children two: Elijah E., and Sarah E. (now Mrs. Willington Wood), of Homer. Parents, Henry I. and Mary Carl, came to county in 1810.

Carver, David W., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 113 acres, born in Spafford, Sept. 4th, 1839, settled in county in 1865; wife, Harriet F. Wright, of Preble; married in 1864, children four: Helen M., Herman W., Fred. D. and Hattie. Mr. Carver was the first farmer to raise cabbage for shipping purposes.

Carpenter, C. De Witt, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 165 acres, born in 1832; wife, Adeline Ball, of Onondaga county; married in 1855, children three: Cora A., Vaeilette A., and Helen A. Asaph H. Carpenter came on the present farm in 1799. F. B., the artist brother of C. D., was born in 1830, and is at present in New York.

Coats, John M., p. o. Homer, notary public, conveyancer and surveyor, born in Truxton in 1820, was town clerk of Truxton seven years and at present corporation clerk of Homer; wife, Almira A. McKnight; married in 1847, children three: Edward M. (now a merchant in Springfield, Mass.), Damon N., a merchant in New York city, Mary E., at present teacher in a Normal school in Hampton, Va.

Chittenden, Giles, p. o. Homer, retired, born in New Milford, Conn., in 1800, settled in county in 1824, was supervisor several terms and justice of peace twelve years; first wife, Samantha McWhorter, born in Cincinnatus and died in 1838, leaving one child; second wife, Mary Ann McWhorter, died June 21st, 1846, leaving one child; third wife, Mrs. Olivia Munson, born in Jefferson county in 1810, married 1848.

Clark, Simeon N., p. o. Homer, manufacturer of tubs, etc., born in Otisco in 1844, settled in Homer, Cortland county, in 1873; wife, Emma E. Howard, born in England, married in 1879.

Coon, Hammill T. (deceased), was born in Otsego county, N. Y., and died in 1862; wife, Rosanna Decker; married in 1852, and settled in Homer same year; children six: John C., Hammill T., of Cortland, William A. and Charles V., who are teachers in Homer Academy, Irvin H. and Nina M.

Cummings, Daniel M., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 106 acres, born in Preble in 1838; wife, Climena Pratt; married in 1861, children two: Mary Louise and Orrin Pratt.

Fisher, Willet, p. o. Homer, manufacturer of patent platform spring wagons, born in Dryden, Tompkins county, in 1841, settled in county in 1859; wife, Caroline S. Pierce; married in 1860, children two now living: Eugene and Charles.

Foster, John, p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 200 acres, born in England in 1822, settled in county in 1860; wife, Jane Miller, of England; married Dec. 3d, 1851; children ten, seven now living.

Gage, A. S., p. o. Homer, manufacturer of cutters, born in Greene, Chenango county, Jan. 5th, 1855, settled in county in 1855; wife, Della C. Watrous, born in Virgil; married Jan. 11th, 1877, one child, Carl W. Gage, born Aug. 2d, 1878.

Gage, C. W., p. o. Homer, cutter manufacturer, born in Knox, Albany county, in 1833, settled in county in 1855, was trustee of village; wife, Abigail Pearsall; married in 1856, children four: A. S. Gage, Belle, Carrie and Frankie D.

Gallup, Francis A., p. o. Homer, farmer, 80 acres, born in Connecticut in 1840, settled in county in 1857; wife, Mary J. Phillips, born in 1838; married in 1861, children four, three living: Frank L., Oren P. and Nattalee E.

Gates, Joel I., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 123 acres, born in Vermont in 1816, settled in county in 1817; wife, Hannah C. Weeks; married May 28th, 1844, and died in 1845, leaving one child, Gertie (now Mrs. Charles Taylor of Truxton); second wife, Maria Severance, of Truxton; married in 1847, children four: John S., Jerome D., Clara E. and Albert R.

Gay, Alvin, p. o. Little York, proprietor of Hotel York, born in Preble in 1853; wife, Almeda Ackels, born in Preble; married in 1872, one child, Edith M.

Gilkerson, William, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 58 acres, born in Cortland in 1844; wife, Sarah C. Coon, born in Fabius, Onondaga county; married in 1871, children three: George S., Mary H. and William R.

Goodelle, C. B., p. o. Homer, farmer, 117 acres, born in Massachusetts in 1812, settled in county in 1816; first wife, Uretta N. Hobart; married in 1840, died in 1843; one child, Uretta H., born in 1843, died in 1856; second wife, Mary Lake; married in 1845, one child, Charles L., born in 1850; married Charlotte P. Beebe in 1873, one child, born in 1874, died in 1876.

Haight, Watts, p. o. East Homer, farmer and manufacturer of lumber, owns 94 acres, born in Homer in 1834; wife, Laura L. Lamb, of Vineland, N. J.; married in 1882, one child, J. Clyde. Parents, Jabez and Emily (Preston) Haight; the former of Westchester county, N. Y., and the latter of Connecticut.

Hammon, Chas., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 69 acres, born in 1845; wife, Rebecca M. Newman, of Little Falls; married in 1868, children three: Herbert A., born in 1870, Chas. W., born in May, 1872, and Howard R., born Feb. 18th, 1876.

Hammond, William, p. o. Homer, farmer,

owns 100 acres, born in Goshen in 1827, settled in county in 1830; wife, Nancy K. Williams, born in Homer; married in 1849 and died Sept. 24th, 1884; children five: Helen L., born July 1st, 1851, Phœbe E., born in 1854, Fred A., born in 1858, Mary E., born in 1866, and Susie E., born in 1869.

Hough, Ezra, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 90 acres, born in Homer, Feb. 9th, 1851; wife, Martha E. Knapp, of Scriba, Oswego Co., N. Y.; married Feb. 18th, 1879, one child, George Walter.

Heberd, Lyman H., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 375 acres, born in Homer in 1837; wife, Clara A. Hobart; married in 1864, children four: Marion A., Caroline L., Cora E. and Jessie A.

Henry, John B., p. o. East Homer, farmer, owns 90 acres, born in East Homer in 1840; wife, Elizabeth Miller, born in East Homer; married in 1868, children two: Frank M. and Edwin J. Parents, Abram and Polly Henry; the former died in 1872, aged 59 years.

Henry, Nathan J., p. o. Homer, carpenter and builder, born in Homer in 1836; wife, Ann Eliza Tompkins, of Cayuga county; married in 1862, children four: Geo. L., Frank G., Earl T. and Mabel G.

Heydon, John S., p. o. Homer, mason, born in Salina, Onondaga county, settled in county in 1867; wife, Martha A. Burnet, of Cayuya county; married in 1854, one child, William Carlton.

Hibbard, Randolph, p. o. Homer, farmer and carriage manufacturer, owns 80 acres, born in East Homer in 1860; wife, Mattie A. Ballard, of Dryden; married in 1882. Parents, M. M. and Ada Hibbard.

Hitchcock, Edward, p. o. Homer, Presbyterian clergyman, owns 220 acres, born in Homer in 1833; wife, Josaphene Cottell Fithian, born in New Jersey; married in 1882.

Hoag, Zelora, p. o. Homer, carpenter and builder, born in Cassville, Oneida county; settled in county in 1838; wife, Amelia Jagger, of Preble; married in 1862.

Hull, Geo. N., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 74 acres, born in Homer in 1819; wife, Elvena Williams; married in 1844, children seven: Frank W., Nancy E., Edward Z., Fannie A. (now Mrs. Albert Sessions), Henry H., Porter M. and Louisa A.

Hutchens, Orrin B., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 23 acres, born in Spafford, Onondaga county, in 1827, settled in county in 1874, was constable in Spafford seventeen years; wife, Mary McDaniels, of Spafford; married in 1854.

Johnson, George, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 195 acres, born in Little Horton, Cumberland county, England, in 1828; came to county in 1838. Parents, Thomas and Jane (Miller) Johnson, natives of England; the former died in 1857.

Jones, Newell, p. o. Homer, postmaster, born in Dover, Vt., in 1818, settled in Homer, Cortland county, in 1828, held the office of postmaster since April 1st, 1876; wife, Polly Harvey, of Chenango county; married in 1844, one child, who died Dec. 28th, 1870.

Jones, Walter, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 240 acres, born in Hillsdale, N.Y., settled in county in 1833, was justice in Preble three years; wife, Martha J. Welch, born in Homer; married in 1850, one child, A. Kate.

Joslyn, Orrin N., p. o. Homer, owns 118 acres, born in Homer in 1842; wife, Theadosia M. Johnson, of East Homer; married in 1865, one child, Etta E. Parents, Daniel and Maria (Utley) Joslyn; the former was a native of Windham county and settled here at an early date.

Kenfield, John, p. o. McGrawville, farmer, owns 140 acres, born in 1837; wife, Jane Shearer, daughter of John and Sally (Northrup) Shearer; married in 1860, children three: Jennie C. (now Mrs. Fred McElheny), of McGrawville, George D., of Homer, and Adin J., who is at home. Parents, Elijah L. and Susan (Ogden) Kenfield; the former was born in Hebron, Washington Co., N. Y., and came here with his parents in 1811, and died in 1880.

Kennedy, Thomas H. About three miles distant from the village of Homer the pleasure-seekers, en route for Glen Haven, pass a dwelling situated in a glen-like formation of upland, away from but overlooking the thoroughfare. In former years this was the chosen home of Thomas H. Kennedy. He was born in the parish of Morton, Dumfries, Scotland, on the 10th of Feb., 1758, and died at his residence in Homer, Cortland Co., N. Y., on the 18th day of April, 1849, at the age of upwards of ninety-one

years. His life was an eventful one. With a mind accomplished by education, extensive reading and acute observation in his early years, traits of character began to shine out which made him interesting in every social circle, and which glowed with serene beauty in his declining years. He was a frequent traveler over Great Britain and the continent, and was an eye-witness of many stirring scenes in the French Revolution, preceding the empire of the first Napoleon. He married his wife (Margaret Carmichael) in Ayershire, where Burns resided. To him Burns confided his early attachments, immortalized in the two exquisite and pathetic effusions entitled "Highland Mary" and to "Mary in Heaven." He carried letters to her from Burns. Ayershire and Dumfries joined, and for years he was often with Burns. Drove the team while Burns held the plow — knew the persons from whom many of his poetic characters were drawn, especially Tam O'Shanter — was familiar with the scenes of the poems, and heard Burns recite many of them before publication. He used to relate an incident which occurred in November, 1785 (while he was the teamster and Burns the plowman), of turning up the nest of a mouse with the plow, and under the inspiration of the hour, and while in the field, Burns wrote the beautiful poem, "To the Mouse." In 1792, at the age of thirty-four, he emigrated to New York and first engaged in mercantile business in Pearl street, then in Greenwich street, corner of Duane. He soon became deeply attached to our free institutions. He had lived in New York a year before the second inauguration of Washington. In after years he became a great admirer of De Witt Clinton, and was quite conversant with political affairs. In May, 1824, he came to Cortland to look after his landed property in this county. He was then the owner of one-third of lot No. 80, in Solon (now Taylor), and one-third of lot No. 3 in Homer. He had then reached the age of sixty-six and resolved to select a spot for a permanent home in which to finish his pilgrimage. His lands were valuable. With true Scottish taste the site selected for his dwelling is an upland dell, now with a lovely landscape in the foreground and hills in the distance. He was a Scotch Presbyterian. His wife died in April, 1856, aged 86. Two daughters married and lived in New York,—one only is living. Two sons, Thomas and Robert, are upon the old farm. The former was born in 1802, married Sally Price in 1828, six children were born to them, four now living: Thomas H., John H., Rhoda A. (now Mrs. Walter Stoker, of Scott), and Margaret M.

Klock, Stephen, p. o East Homer, farmer, owns 86 acres, born in St. Johnsville in 1827, settled in county in 1847, has been justice of peace since 1869; wife, Maranda Hibbard, born in 1830; married in 1856, children two: George A. and Edgar R.

Kneeland A. J., p. o. Homer, lawyer, born in Marcellus, Onondaga county, in 1821, settled in county in 1871, was supervisor, justice of peace and member of assembly; wife, Esther Griswold, born in Truxton; married in 1852.

Keeling, Henry D., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 86 acres, born in Homer in 1841; wife, Cornelian L. Abbott, of Homer; married in 1865, children three, now living: Fred D., Grace L. and Bertha. Mr. Keeling was in Co. E, 185th Regiment N. Y. S. V.

Kingsbury, A. D., p. o. Cortland, farmer, owns 154 acres, born in Homer in 1834, was assessor three terms; wife, Emily Hawks; married in 1859, one child: Charles D., born in Michigan in 1872.

Knight, Philander, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 197 acres, born in Scott in 1823, was justice of peace; wife, E. Louisa Burdick; married in 1845, one child living, Arthur L. Eldest child, Josephene Louisa, died when three years old. Father Joab Knight came to county in 1814 and died in 1881. Philander Knight was one of those uncompromising abolitionists who voted for James G. Birney for president in 1844, and continued the warfare against slavery till it was dead and buried beyond the hope of resurrection. He is now battling as ardently for the prohibition of the liquor traffic; for the home against the saloon, as he ever did against African slavery, and expects to continue the fight till the home is triumphant and the saloon is forever banished from his native land.

Lord, George W., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 96 acres, born in Homer in 1839; wife, Sereph B. Flint, born in Butler; married in 1865, chil-

dren six, three living: George E., Mary E. and Lulu N. Father Eli Lord came from Connecticut in 1820; George W. resides on the same farm purchased at that time.

Markham, Hiram, p. o. Little York, owns 88 acres, retired, born in Madison county in 1796, settled in county in 1853; wife, Jane Porter, born in Fabius; married in 1861. Mr. Markham was always an advocate of prohibition and anti-slavery and both himself and wife are members of Syracuse Plymouth Church.

Metzger, Jacob, p. o. Homer, restaurant, and billiard parlor, and manager Keator Opera House, born in Germany in 1849, settled in Homer in 1864; wife, Helen L. Beaman, born in Massachusetts; married in 1868, children three, one living, Lena F.

Miles, Joseph, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 59 acres, born in Homer in 1831, was constable; wife, Margaret Peters, of Cayuga county; married in 1860, children two: Eugene and Herman J. Father Philo came from Connecticut to county in 1817.

Miller, George P., p. o. East Homer, steam saw-mill and farmer, owns 77 acres, born in Homer in 1842, was in Co. D, 157th N. Y. Vols., enlisted in 1862, was transferred from Co. D, 157th N. Y. Vols., to the 55th Co., 2d Bat. V. R. C., G. O. No. 365, dated Washington, D. C., November 13th, 1863, and discharged in 1865; wife, Lucinda M. Baker; married in 1865, children five: William F., Carrie P., Lillie M., George B., and John B.

Miller, John H., p. o. Homer, born in Truxton in 1844, farmer, owns 212 acres; wife, Ann E. Bell, of Truxton, daughter of James and Mary (Graham) Bell, natives of England, who settled in Truxton in 1852; married in 1872, children, two: Jennie E. and Jessie B. Parents, Isaac and Elizabeth (Harrison) Miller, natives of England, who came here in 1842.

Moore, William, p. o. Cortland, farmer, born in England in 1832, settled in county in 1864; first wife, Sarah Stephenson; married in 1860, children six: Mary Ann, Sarah J., John S., Thos. H., Joseph B. and Libbie G.; second wife, Lorinda Gross, born in McGrawville, married in 1876.

Moore, William H., p. o. East River, superintendent and general manager of East River Milling Company, born in 1824, settled in county in 1851, was justice of peace in the town of Virgil in 1856, and is present postmaster; wife, Fidelia McVean; married in 1853, children two: William A. and John C.

Mynard, James E., p. o. East Homer, farmer, owns 162 acres, born in Virgil in 1830; wife, Janette Bennett, of Truxton; married in 1854, children, five: Della O. (now Mrs. Stephen Briggs), Libbie J. (now Mrs. Frank Hinman), Pearl, Martin and Kittie.

Newton, C. O., p. o. Homer, wholesale dealer in hay and grain, owns 30 acres, born in Hampden county, Mass., in 1826, settled in Cortland county in 1852; wife, Elizabeth S. Newton, of Homer, daughter of Lemuel D. Newton, who settled here in 1816; married in 1852, one child, Frank M.

Oakes, Russell, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 78 acres, born in Otsego county in 1841, settled in county in 1881; wife, Agnes A. Bettes, of Percy, Canada; married in 1881, one child, Lewis; Freddie R. is Mrs. Oakes's child by a former marriage.

Owen, Duane D., p. o. Homer, gearing wood worker, born in Homer in 1845; wife, Josephene E. Bartlett, of Homer; married in 1875, one child, Pearlette.

Payne, Barney W., farmer, owns 20 acres, born in Georgetown, N. Y., in 1812, removed to Hamilton the same year, making that place his home until 1844, having been engaged in the dry goods trade for a number of years previous to 1844, then removed to Jefferson Co., N. Y., and engaged in farming and continuing the trade in dry goods and serving as justice of the peace until 1851. He then removed to Homer and engaged in the manufacturing of cotton cloth, etc., served as assistant assessor of internal revenue for eight years; wife, Lucy A. Bicknell, born at Marblehead, Mass.; married in 1841.

Peacock, John, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 68 acres, born in Huntingtonshire, England, in 1828, settled in county in 1869; wife, Levina Culley, of England; married in 1859, children four: Charles H., Jesse J., Mary E. and Anna C.

Perry, Ebenezer, p. o. Homer, retired, born in Aurelius in 1802, settled in county in 1824; first

wife, Amy Alvord, daughter of Ebenezer and Rachael (Crampton) Alvord, born in 1801, children seven, three living: Ebenezer A., Ruth and Rhoda V.; second wife, Margaret Lake, married in 1873; third wife, Lusia Norton, daughter of David and Dinah (Welton) Norton. Father Ichabod served in the Revolution, born in 1763, and died in 1824.

Phelps, Darius B., p. o. McGrawville, farmer, owns 56 acres, born in Cortland county, in 1826; wife, Mary A. Kenney, daughter of Isaac and Nancy (Lewis) Kenney, of Truxton; married in 1858, children two: Ada M. (now Mrs. Frank W. Eastman), of McGrawville, and Lida E. (now Mrs. Byron E. Widger), of Homer. Parents, Benjamin C. and Phœbe (Fisher) Phelps, who came to county in 1796.

Phillips, Edwin A., p. o. East Homer, wagon maker, born in Homer in 1844, enlisted in Co. D, 157th N. Y. Vols., in 1862.

Porter, Oliver, p. o. Homer, lawyer.

Pratt, Edwin W., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 35 acres, born in Homer in 1830; wife, Mary E. Churchill, of Scott, born in 1824; married in 1858.

Pratt, Franklin F., was born in Homer in 1835. (He was the youngest of four sons.) His father's name was David and came from Windham Co., Conn., in 1817, to this county. Franklin had the advantage of a good common school education, also attended the academy at Homer several terms under S. W. Clark as principal. From 1853 to the opening of the civil war, he taught school winters and worked at farming the remainder of the time. Oct. 4th, 1861, he enlisted in the 76th Regt. N. Y. S. Vols., and served faithfully in the war in that Regiment till Aug., 1864, when he was transferred with another comrade to U. S. Marine Corps at their own request. He was discharged from service in Dec., 1864, by special order of President Lincoln on account of his father's death and being the only son left to care for his widowed mother. He was married in Oct., 1866, to Sarah Brayton, daughter of Thomas Brayton, formerly of Cumberland Co., England. He has five children: Lillian E., Rosella A., Nellie M., Gracie E. and Charles F. Since 1875 Mr. Pratt has owned a farm of 124 acres and followed the dairy business.

Pratt, Melvin J., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 113 acres, born in Homer in 1843, was justice of the peace; wife, Cornelia E. Salisbury; married in 1867, children two: Stephen S., and Melvin E.

Raymond, Alfred B., p. o. Little York, farmer, cheese-maker, owns 10 acres, and has accommodations for summer boarding, boating and etc., born in Aug., 1838, has been constable; wife, Pearlette E. Albro; married in 1866, children three, all dead.

Rice, Albert, born in 1805, and died in 1874, settled in county in 1810; wife, Rosanna Crampon, of Conn.; married in 1835, children six: Elizabeth, Francis U., now Mrs. H. P. Hull, of Homer, Albert B., who died in 1862, R. W., L. F., and Franklin D.

Rice, Franklin D., p. o. Homer, manufacturer and dealer in lumber, cider, and pure cider vinegar, born in Homer in 1855; wife, Clara J. Price, of Homer, married in 1879; children two: Alice L., and Albert B.

Saunders, William F., p. o. Homer, livery, born in Cuyler in 1853; wife, Ellen M. Skinner, of Taylor; married June 17th, 1880, one child, Wallace W.

Salisbury, Warren, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 11 acres, born in Homer in 1832, was excise commissioner; wife, Roxanna E. Gay, of Preble; married in 1862, one child, Cora L.

Salisbury, W. W., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 45 acres, born in Scott in 1834, was secretary of county fire relief association; wife, Margaret L. Rice, of Albany; married in 1860, children three: James Rice, Elizabeth D., now Mrs. A. Rust, of Scott, and W. W., jr.

Schermerhorn, Henry, p. o. East River, retired, born in Homer in 1808; wife, Eliza Emerson, of Mass.; married in 1834, children six: Freeman, of Truxton, Lucy (deceased), Daniel B., of Kansas, Eunice, now Mrs. William McLean, of Wisconsin, Annie J., now Mrs. William Miller, of Oregon, and Seymour.

Seacord, Jefferson, p. o. Homer, wagon manufacturer, born in Taylor in 1862; wife, Ada Colby, of Akron; married in 1878, children two: Neva and Ella.

Seeley, Orlando E., p. o. Homer, born in Spafford in 1847, settled in county in 1883; wife,

Anna Eddy, of Saratoga county; married in 1870, children two: Francis Irving, and Burton R.

Sessions, Henry, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 165 acres, born in Stafford, Conn., in 1830, came here with his father and settled where he now resides in 1831; mother, Catharine Pool, of Connecticut; wife, Louisa F. Phillips, daughter of Levi Phillips; married in 1852, children four: Francis A., now Mrs. F. A. Holenbeck, of Syracuse, George A., Cora E., now Mrs. Charles Gilbert, of Homer, and Lena M.

Sherman, A. James, p. o. Homer, retired, born in 1817, owns 90 acres, was vice-president Merchant's National bank of Syracuse; wife, Sarah A. Sherman, of Homer; married in 1858.

Short, David, p. o. East Homer, born in 1812, owns 112 acres; wife, Miriam Buchanan, of Cortlandville; married in 1841. Father settled here in 1810, came from Bristol, Mass.

Smith, Abel B., p. o. Homer, farmer, born in Dryden, Tompkins county, settled in county in 1873, owns 48⅞ acres; wife, Mary Crane, of Cayuga county; married in 1870, children four: Abbie B., Arthur G., Wheeler A. and Lela E. Mr. Smith has on his place the first frame barn built in Homer, said to have been built by the Beebes the first settlers in the town near his place.

Sprague, Hosea, p. o. Homer, retired builder, born in Brimfield, Mass., in 1793, settled in county in 1821, was trustee of village; wife, Ann Hobart, daughter of Capt. Joseph, who came from Brimfield, Mass., in 1800.

Stafford, Henry, p. o. Homer, farmer, born in Virgil in 1817, owns 185 acres, was school trustee and teacher a number of years; first wife, Britania C. Sessions; married in 1844, died in 1864; second wife, Ada Sessions; married in 1865, children eight, three living: Leonard I., D. C., of Nebraska, and Ada C. (now Mrs. A. Styles), of Cayuga county.

Stewart, Edwin F., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 16 acres, born in West Eaton in 1852, settled in county in 1856; wife, Josephene Hollenbeck, of Scott; married in 1870, children two: Jennie and Stella.

Stoker, Benjamin, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 85 acres, born in Yorkshire, England, in 1822, settled in county in 1836; wife, Catharine Hammon, of Orange county; married in 1845, children eight, four living: Sarah E., Fannie (now Mrs. Manly Terrel), of Cortland, Daniel B. and Nellie.

Stone, Alphonso, p. o. Homer, foundry and machinist, born in 1818, was supervisor three terms, superintendent of the poor seven years, and president of the village four years; wife, Maria Beach; married in 1850, children four: Charles C., Louis A., Eliot L., and F. Eugene, all living at home.

Thompson, Hammill, p. o. Homer, born in Cherry Valley in 1799, settled in county in 1826, was assessor three terms, died Nov. 27, 1884; wife, Experience Oakes, of Rensselear Co., N. Y.; married in 1826, children two; Alzoa, who married Rev. Chester Hawley, died in 1871, leaving two children.

Van Denburg, John R., p. o. Homer, farmer, 104 acres, born in Preble in 1818; wife, Lucinda M. Babcock, born in Scott; married in 1840, children three: Marvin W., of Fort Edward, N. Y., Almeron H., of Syracuse, N. Y., and Ella F. Father Richard Van Denburg came from Coxsackie in 1806 to Preble.

Wadsworth, Manly, p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 55 acres, born in Homer in 1817; first wife, Lois Howe; married in 1838, children two: Enos and George R.; second wife, Lurinda Howe; married in 1844, one child, Berice M., now Mrs. Wadsworth Reed, of Cortland; third wife, Lucina Stambro; married in 1869, one child, Willie A.; a fourth wife, Amanda Crane, of McGrawville, married in 1877, one child, Manly D.

Welch, William L., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 58 acres, born in Solon in 1839; wife, Mary Jane Newton; married in 1862; children two: Sarah Maud and Grace May.

White, Thomas, p. o. Homer, proprietor Hotel Windsor, born in South Salem in 1822, settled in county in 1856; wife, Sylvia Slocum, of Cayuga county; married in 1844, children four: Joseph White, Mary E., deceased, Carrie, now Mrs. D. N. Miller, of Homer, Libbie, now Mrs. B. M. Hyde, of Moravia, N. Y.

Wilson, Alfred C., p. o. Homer, mason and builder, born in Homer in 1833; wife, Jane F. Powers, of Albany; married in 1855, one child, Porter J., of Medina.

Woodward, Charles N., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 150 acres, born in 1826; wife, Charlotte M. Brown, of Homer, born in 1828, died in 1856; one child, Charles B., druggist, of Great Bend, Pa.; second wife, M. Elizabeth Dada, native of Onondaga county; married in 1857. Charles N. has been for many years connected with the Sunday school work of the State.

Woodward, Day E., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 30 acres, born in Homer in 1839; wife, Melissa Burdick, of Otsego county; married in 1860; father, Isaac D., came on foot from New Hampshire to Homer, and brought the first payment on the farm, in 1822.

Woodruff, Jerome J., p. o. Homer, farmer, owns 59½ acres, born in Fabius, Onondaga county, in 1835, settled in county in 1874, was school commissioner and 1st Lieut. in Co. I 61st N. Y. Vols.; wife, Myra Wheat, born in Cortland county; married in 1864, children six: James D., Arthur J., Anna J., Charles T., Trowbridge B., and Alson E.

Woodward, Norris G., p. o. Cortland, farmer, born in Homer in 1842, was overseer of the poor two terms in Homer; wife, Elizabeth Ireland, of Truxton; married in 1871, children three: Herold E., Ernest I. and George N.

Wright, Egbert A., p. o. Little York, farmer, owns 126 acres, born in Greene county in 1822, settled in county in 1840; wife, Miriam Winslow, of Preble, is a descendant of the Winslow's who came over in the *Mayflower;* married Jan. 16th, 1842, children seven: Annie M. (now Mrs. Abram Knapp), Harriet F. (now Mrs. David Carver), Mary (now Mrs. Richmond Klock), Jennie E. now (Mrs. Merrill Hollenbeck), Lewis C., Robert and Rollin E.

LAPEER.

Boice, Henry, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer, born in Columbia county in 1843; wife, Estelle Clark, daughter of John and Lucy J. (Turk) Clark, born in Tioga county in 1839; married in 1862, children two: Lucy E. and Ermine. Parents, William and Polly (Decker) Boice, of Columbia county; the former settled in Cortland county in 1843, and died in 1872, aged 75; wife died in 1836.

Burden, John I., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Lapeer in 1857; wife, Hannah Clute, of Sullivan county; married in 1876, one child, Clifford. Grandparents, John and Susan (Hopkins) Burden, who settled in county in 1820, children three. The former was born is 1791, and is still living. The latter died in 1876.

Clark, Daniel, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer and stock dealer, born in Lapeer in 1848; wife, Lorane Tryer, born in Broome county in 1853; married in 1873, children two: Charles H., and John Clark. Parents, John and Lucy J. (Turk) Clark, the former born in 1808 and died in 1877, the latter born in 1815; children eight, six now living.

Cleveland, Nelson, p. o. Hunt's Corners, carpenter, builder, and farmer, born in Virgil (now Lapeer), in 1827; wife, Phebe Tryon, born in Virgil (now Lapeer), in 1835; married in 1855, children five: Caroline, born December 16th, 1855, Ida H., born October 3d, 1861, Esther, born January 29th, 1865, Henry M., born October 2d, 1871, and D. Hugh, born May 11th, 1879, died Sept. 28th, 1884. Parents, Henry M., and Sarah (Fox) Cleveland, the former born in Davenport, Delaware county in 1797, was justice of peace, carpenter, builder, and farmer, died August 17th, 1884; the latter born in N. H. in 1807, and died in 1881, children five, two now living.

Day, Mrs. Almira S., p. o. Hunt's Corners, born in Lapeer in 1828; husband, Orrin Smith Day, born in Lapeer in 1825, was assessor one term and commissioner many years, enlisted in the Rebellion, served till close of war, incurred disease which resulted in his death which occurred in 1882; married in 1854, children three: Mary L., born in 1855, Carroll, born in 1858, and Kate E., born in 1862. Parents, John and Lucy (Baldwin) Butterfield, who settled in Marathon in 1823, the former died in 1849, the latter in 1872; children ten.

Freeman, Delos, p. o. Marathon, farmer, carpenter and builder, born in Lapeer in 1835; wife, Francis Brown, born in 1841; married in 1858, children five: Addie E., Luna C., Clinton E., Anna L., and Palmer D. Parents, Elijah and Adeline C. (McIntyre) Freeman, the former born in 1806, and died in 1880, the latter born in 1808, is still living; children four, three living:

Georgie A., Laura E., and Delos. Grandparents, Prince and Bethia (White) Freeman, who settled in Virgil in 1800, and on the farm now owned by Delos in 1813.

Goodale, George W., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Virgil in 1823; wife, Frances A. Hulslander, born in Dryden in 1842; married Nov. 11th, 1863, children four: Giles, born in 1865, Carrie, August 18th, 1868, Jason, April 26th, 1871, and Bertha, April 24th, 1876. Parents, Asaph and Betsey (Parmenter) Goodale, natives of Massachusetts, settled in county in 1819; children nine, three now living; the former died in 1866, the latter in 1868.

Gray, Peter N., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Virgil in 1824, was supervisor two terms, assessor one term; wife, Jerusha Watrous, daughter of Austin and Sally Watrous, born in Freetown in 1824; married March 4th, 1846, children two: Elizabeth and Jason E., the former married Dr. J. E. Peebles in 1866, children two; the latter married Mary Dillenback in 1878, children two. Parents, Ogden and Susan (Barnes) Gray, the former born in 1797 and died in 1866, the latter born in Pennsylvania in 1799, married in 1819, and still resides at Cortland; children eleven, nine now living.

Hunt, William E., p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer, born in Lapeer, was town clerk three years, supervisor three terms, justice of the peace seventeen years, postmaster sixteen years and notary public five years; wife, Lucretia P. Lake, daughter of Jedediah and Patience (Church) Lake, born in Lapeer in 1833; married in 1855, children seven: Sarah P., Asa L., Lewis W., died 1880, George B., Mary, Henry M., and Mabel. Parents, Asa and Sally (Johnson) Hunt, the former born in Connecticut, in 1802, settled in county in 1821, taught school for one year and went to Lapeer in 1827; the latter born in 1807, married in 1827, children five. Lucretia died in 1862; she was the wife of Prof. Lewis Swift, of Rochester.

Jennings, Aaron B., p. o. Killawog, Broome county, farmer, born in Lapeer in 1826, was assessor two terms, and held other offices; wife, Harriet Tarbel, born in 1835; married in 1852, children seven: Maranda, born in 1853, Addison R., in 1856, Andrew M., in 1859, Albert A., in 1864, Eva L., in 1866, Hattie May, in 1871, and Erma L., in 1877. Parents, Rufus and Betsey (Benedict) Jennings, the former born in 1789, and died in 1851, the latter died in 1832, children six, four now living. Grandparents, Seth and Hannah (Balch) Jennings, married in 1785, the former died in 1820, the latter in 1826.

Jennings, Orlando, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer, born in Lisle in 1819; wife, Harriet M. Sessions, daughter of Marcus and Celestia (Squires) Sessions, born in 1824; married in 1843, children three: Esther M., born in 1847, Frederick M., in 1850, and Celestia in 1861. Parents, Alfred and Betsey (Lossing) Jennings. Grandparents, Seth and Hannah (Balch) Jennings; married Nov. 24th, 1785, settled in county in 1801, with six children.

Jennison, Smith B., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Virgil in 1837, was supervisor in 1884, assessor three years; wife, Orpah Eldridge, born in 1838; married in 1860, children three: Wallace, Oliver and Mary. Parents, Levy N. and Lucy (Smith) Jennison, the former born in Worcester county, Mass., in 1799, and died in 1863; the latter born in Massachusetts in 1811, children six: Marion, Smith B., Lurana, Larkin, Levy, and Adelbert.

Johnson, Horace, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Lapeer in 1837, and died June 29th, 1874; wife, Hannah Clark, daughter of John and Lucy J. (Turk) Clark, born in 1842; married in 1862, children two, Polly and Ida. Parents, Abner H. and Rebecca (Parker) Johnson.

Parker, Thomas, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in New Jersey in 1803, settled in county in 1818, was poormaster thirteen years; wife, Aurilla Chase, born in Triangle in 1807; married in 1825, died in 1877, children ten. Parents, Watson and Rhoda Parker, of New Jersey, who settled in Lapeer in 1818, with seven children.

Robinson, Alanson, p. o. Messengerville, farmer, born in Lapeer in 1824; wife, Ann Hobart; married in 1849. Parents, Eliphalet and Amy (Parker) Robinson; the former born in Connecticut in 1796 and died in 1872, the latter born in 1800 and died in 1858, leaving ten children.

Robinson, James R., p. o. Marathon, farmer and stock, born in Lapeer in 1841, was super-

visor one term; wife, Ellen E. Pierce, born in 1849; married in 1876, one child, Arthur P. Parents, Eliphalet and Amy (Parker) Robinson.

Robinson, Simeon, p. o. Marathon, farmer and dairy, born in Lapeer in 1819, was highway commissioner three years and lieutenant in militia; wife, Sarepta Ann, daughter of Artemus and Lydia Darling, born in 1824; married in 1840, children two: Addie L., born in 1864, and Simeon E. in 1866.

Surdam, Daniel Orville, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer and stock dealer, born in Vernon, N. Y., in 1814, has been supervisor six terms, assessor three terms, and held other offices; wife, Mary M. Hay, daughter of Henry and Mary (Lawton) Hay, born in 1823; married in 1842, and died March 9th, 1844, leaving one daughter, Frances M., who married Talma Hill; children three. Parents, Daniel and Letty (Slater) Surdam; Daniel, born in Salisbury, Conn., Letty, in Bedford, N. Y., settled in Salisbury, removed to Vernon, Oneida county, N. Y., thence to Scipio, Cayuga county, thence to Marathon, Cortland county, in 1818, and died in Tioga county; children eight, four now living.

Tarble, John, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer, retired, born in Jericho, Chenango county, in 1806, settled in county in 1810, was assessor over twelve years; wife, Maranda Gross, born in 1813; married in 1834, and died in 1842; children four; second wife, Susan Gross, born in 1821; married in 1844, and died in 1847, one son, John; third wife, Ruth Smith, born in 1823; married in 1850, children five. Parents, Robert and Sarah (Parker) Smith, natives of Rhode Island, and early settlers of county; the former died in 1870, aged 86.

Torry, Rev. Orrin Lewis, p. o. Marathon, M. E. minister, and member of Central N. Y. Conference, M. E. Church, superannuated and retired to a farm in Lapeer, where, by hard labor, unaided by the church, he earns an honest livelihood. Was licensed to exhort and preach, and was recommended to the Oneida Annual Conference, July, 1847, of which he was a member until the Central Conference was formed. His field of labor has been, besides extras, all through the county and in adjoining counties. Caroline and Speedsville; Marathon five years, Factoryville, Waverly, Athens and Pipe Creek, Virgil, East Virgil and Harford, Tully and Vesper, Cuyler and De Ruyter, Homer, McGrawville, Whitney's Point and Lisle, and New Berlin and Columbus Centre. Was born in Coventry, Chenango county, Oct. 23d, 1821; wife, Sally Ann Sessions, daughter of Urial and Nancy (Price) Sessions, of Marathon, born May, 1823; married in July, 1849, one child, born Dec., 1850, Lewis J., who married Anna Wright, of Chicago, where he resides. Rev. O. L. Torry was a graduate of the Homer Institute through his sacrifice and perseverance. Many revivals resulted from his labors, and many memorable incidents, now fresh in the recollections of thousands to whom he has ministered in their afflictions, have to be omitted.

Valentine, George N., p. o. Marathon, farmer and carpenter, born in Marathon in 1845, was highway commissioner one term; wife, Emma C. Freeman, daughter of John and Mary A. (Kennedy) Freeman, born in 1848; married in 1867, children two: Ralph C. and Leighton F. Parents, John A. and Rhoda (Salisbury) Valentine; the former born in 1815, and died in 1867, the latter in 1817, is still living; three children: Esther, G. W. and Charles A.

Young, David, p. o. Hunt's Corners, farmer, carpenter and builder, born in Herkimer county in 1840, settled in county in 1846, was assessor seven years; wife, Emma G. Houghtaling, born in Broome county in 1852; married in 1872, children two: David H. and Francie. Parents, Hiram and Polly (Hay) Young, of Herkimer county; the former died in 1848, the latter in the same year, leaving four children. David enlisted in Co. E, 76th Regt., in 1861, served sixteen months under Col. Greene, and was discharged on account of impaired health. His home was with Mr. and Mrs. Lyman and Martha Watrous, of Lapeer, since his father's death.

MARATHON.

Aldrich, Moses B., p. o. Marathon, born in Susquehanna county, Pa., in 1842, settled in county in 1872, was town clerk, and elected justice of peace in 1882; wife, Clara Smith, daughter of O. H. Smith, born in 1857; married in 1876, children two: Clarence and H. Ray.

M. B. Aldrich acquired the profession of dentistry at Binghamton and practiced in Marathon with much success.

Baker, Joseph, jr., p. o. Marathon, retired farmer, born in Delaware county, N. Y., in 1806, settled in county in 1848, was highway-commissioner, assessor seven years and delegate to county conventions; first wife, Catharine Haver, born in Schoharie county, married in 1835, died in 1869; second wife, Julia Yarrington, born in Chenango county in 1835, married in 1871. Parents, Joseph and Eunice (Follet) Baker, the former born in Massachusetts, the latter in Connecticut, children thirteen, six now living. Grandparents emigrated from Scotland, England and Wales, and all lived to be about eighty-two years old.

Ball, L. Clinton, p. o. Marathon, dealer in dry goods, crockery, etc., born in Virgil, July 6th, 1840, served in the late war for three years in different positions, was justice of the peace one term; wife, Mary A. Brown, born in 1841, married in 1865; one child, Willie D., born in 1872. Parents, Lewis Ball and Rebecca Powers. Lewis Ball was son of Wait Ball who was among the first settlers of the county and was justice of the peace for nearly forty years, and at one time one of the *three* county judges.

Boyden, Fred L., Marathon, furniture and undertaker, born in Willet in 1857; wife, Addie Montgomery, born in 1863, married in 1881. Parents, Luther O. and Nancy (Dibble) Boyden, the former of Willet, the latter of Broome county. Frank L. began the furniture business in 1883, and deals in all kinds of house furnishing goods.

Brooks, Charles A., p. o. Marathon, postmaster, and manufacturer of Mitchell's copy case, blackboard, and desk, born in Danby, N. Y., in 1857, settled in county in 1874, was postmaster in 1882, and town auditor; wife, Mary A. Squires, daughter of Hon. Dann C. Squires; married in 1878, one daughter, Irene Mack. Parents, Rev. Asa and Permelia (Griffin) Brooks, the former was pastor of the M. E. Church in 1874, and now located in Broome county.

Carley, A. A., p. o. Marathon.

Carter, Charles, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Bainbridge, N. Y., in 1813, settled in Marathon in 1835, was assessor one term, and held other offices; wife, Abigail Ostrander, born in Broome county in 1812; married in 1841, children six: Charles A., Emily D., Almira, George G., Simon W., and Edwin A. Parents, Ezra and Dimmes (Bidwell) Carter, the former born in Connecticut, and the latter in Massachusetts, settled in Broome county very early, came to Cortland county in 1836, the former died in 1861, the latter in 1876.

Dellow, William R., p. o. Marathon, manufacturer and dealer in furniture, and undertaker, born in Madison county in 1834, settled in county in 1858, was town auditor and held other offices; wife, Elvira Danforth, born in Vermont in 1834; married in 1855; children three: Frank, Fred and Hattie. Parents, Daniel and Mary A. (Simmons) Dellow, married in England, and settled in Madison county in 1832. W. R. Dellow began the sale of furniture at Willet in 1858, and in 1872 moved his business to Cortland, and in 1875 opened his present factory at Marathon.

Gardener, Henry, p. o. Marathon, farmer. Parents, William and Anna (Martin) Gardener, the former born in Springfield, Mass., in 1796, settled in county in 1806, married in 1820; the latter was born in 1799, and died Sept. 12th, 1845, children nine, five now living: Mrs. Polly M. Jones, Mrs. Sarah Smith, Mrs. Emeline Baker, Nelson and Henry. Second wife, Lovena Parmer, born in 1800, married in 1846, and now resides on the homestead.

Hammond, Cautious S., p. o. Texas Valley, retired farmer, and shoe manufacturer, owns 125 acres, born in Canada in 1806, settled in county in 1807, was collector one year; wife, Loisa Eggleston, born in 1809; married in 1828, died in 1841, children eight, four living. Second wife, Charity Shiffer, daughter of Henry H. and Albertine Shiffer, born in 1812, married in 1844. Parents, Henry and Mary (Stoddard) Hammond, the former born in Long Island, died in 1846, the latter in Vermont, died in 1866; children six, three now living.

Hammond, Delos C., p. o. Texas Valley, blacksmith and farmer, born in Cincinnatus in 1830; wife, Betsey Cleveland; married in 1852, children five: Sarah L., born in 1855, Florence I., in 1859, Frank D., in 1863, Minnie L., in

1865, and Mattie J., in 1867. Parents, Cautious S. and Louisa (Eggleston) Hammond.

Hammon, Samuel, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1814, was assessor twenty-one years, and held other offices; wife, Lucy Ann Stanley, daughter of Harris and Annie (Sedgwick) Stanley, born in Lapeer in 1820; married in 1845, children six, three now living: Clark S., John H., and Samuel, jr. Parents, John and Phebe (Davis) Hammon, the former was born at Suffolk, L. I., in 1776, settled in county in 1813, died in 1843, the latter born in 1773 and died in 1865; children fourteen.

Hawley, De Forest D., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1847. Parents, Zina A. and Margaret (Fuller) Hawley, the former of Delaware county, the latter of Cortland, settled in Marathon in 1830, the latter died in 1871, leaving six children: De Forest D., Alexander F., Elizabeth, Margaret, Mary, and Maria. Grandparents, Jacob and Maria Fuller, settled in Marathon in 1800.

Hays, Edward W., p. o. Marathon, merchant and cooper, born in Herkimer county in 1832, settled in county in 1866; wife, Elmira Rutt, born in Fulton county in 1834; married in 1854, children two: Nellie Francis, born in 1862, and Eddie C., born in 1868.

Hilsinger, David, p. o. Marathon, lumber dealer, carpenter and builder, owns 360½ acres, born in Marathon in 1821, was commissioner of highways seven years; wife, Louisa Jones, daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Adams) Jones, born in Marathon in 1829; married in 1849, children two: Albert and Thomas. Parents, Conrad and Eva Hilsinger, natives of Schoharie county.

Frelick, Elias, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1804; wife, Abigail Beach, daughter of Elijah and Anna Beach, who settled in county in 1830, born in 1825, married in 1850. Parents, John and Rachael (Fuller) Frelick, the former born in 1776, and died in 1850, the latter died in 1856; children eight, four now living. Grandparents, Benjamin and Mary (Smith) Frelick, who came to Marathon in 1802.

Johnson, Abram B., p. o. Marathon, farmer, stock grower and dealer, owns 290 acres, born in Virgil in 1826; wife, Charlotte Shepard, daughter of Nathaniel Shepard, born in Upper Lisle in 1829, married in 1850. Parents, Washington and Ann (Brink) Johnson, the former born in 1802, died in 1883, the latter was born in 1806, died in 1844.

Johnson, Herbert, p. o. Marathon, farmer, butcher and stock dealer, born in Virgil in 1843; wife, Ella Dalton, born in Ireland in 1854; married in 1875, children three: Lena, Anna, and Willie. Parents, Stephen S. and Sally Ann (Carley) Johnson, the former born in Broome county in 1806, married in 1838, children nine.

Jones, Warren, p. o. Marathon, farmer and dairy, owns 140 acres, born in Marathon in 1852; wife, Nettie Johnson, born in Dunkirk in 1857; married in 1876, children two: Charles and Flora. Parents, Thomas and Hannah (Adams) Jones; the former born in Marathon in 1807; married in 1826, died in 1880; the latter born in 1808 and died in 1882; children eleven, nine now living.

Lathrop, Ezra H., p. o. Marathon, farmer and dairy, born in Marathon in 1862; wife, Sarah Seymour, born in 1829; married in 1855, died in 1881; second wife, Mrs. Hulda E. Spencer, widow of Jirah P. Spencer, born in 1831; married Mr. Lathrop in 1838. Parents, Horace and Betsey (Hartson) Lathrop; the former of Connecticut, the latter of Broome county; children twelve, six now living.

Leach, Christopher W., p. o. Marathon, harness maker and farmer, born in Marathon in 1814, was collector and held other town offices; wife, Lucetta Livermore, born in Chenango county in 1816; married in 1835, died in 1870, leaving thirteen children; second wife, Mrs. S. S. Cox, married in 1871. Parents, Jonathan and Lydia (Pattengail) Leach, natives of Massachusetts, who settled in Marathon in 1800; children seven, three now living. The former died in 1840, the latter in 1854.

Livingston, James, jr., p. o. Marathon, bridge builder, steam foundry and machinist, born in Otsego county in 1837, settled in county in 1838; wife, Fannie Peebles of Marathon, born in 1840; married in 1858, children four: John W., George, Desman B., and Mary. Parents, James and Elizabeth Livingston; the former of Otsego county, the latter of Schoharie; children four. Mr. Livingston is one of the best iron

bridge builders in the State; he has erected many in his town and county, also in adjoining counties, which give the best of satisfaction.

Lovell, Ransom M., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1823, was commissioner of highways and held other offices; wife, Mary Hilsinger, born in 1828; married in 1849, died in 1853; second wife, Dorcas E. Meacham, born in 1835; married in 1856, children six. Parents, Joseph A. and Lucy Carpenter Lovell; the former born in Vermont in 1782, the latter in 1787; married in 1801; Lucy died in 1848, and Joseph A. died in 1853; children fourteen, three now living: Mary V., Ransom M. and Joseph.

Mallery, Patrick, p. o. Marathon, retired farmer, born in Marathon in 1806, was supervisor eight terms, assessor four terms, and held other minor offices; wife, Avis Howland, born in 1805, married in 1830 and died in 1876; second wife, Frances A. Phelps, born in 1847, married in 1878, one child, Ralph P. who died in 1882. Parents, Patrick and Anna (Olmstead) Mallery, who settled in Marathon in 1805; children eleven, nine now living.

Mantanye, William J., p. o. Marathon, attorney and counselor.

Meacham, Edgar N., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1837, was assessor in 1883, excise commissioner three terms, and deputy sheriff; wife, Ann Frances Lawrence, born in 1838; married in 1866, one child, Lawrence Hale. Parents, Eleazer and Eliza (Leach) Meacham; the former born in Massachusetts in 1800, the latter in Cortland county in 1806; married in 1827, children five. Grandparents came to county in 1809.

Meacham, E. Delos, p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1833, was justice of peace two terms; wife, Ruth Lovell, born in 1831; married in 1853, children eight: Frank E., Cecil D., Ada, Nettie E., Lillie B., May, Grace E., and Ernest D. Parents, Eleazer H. and Eliza Leach; the former was born in Massachusetts in 1800, and died in 1879; the latter born in 1806, married in 1827, died in 1872, children four.

Montgomery, Dubois, p. o. Marathon, farmer and dairy, owns 200 acres, born in Roxbury, Delaware county, in 1825, settled in county in 1845, was commissioner of highways three years, and overseer of the poor; wife, Marietta Maydole, daughter of John and Mary Maydole; married in 1848, children five: Alice, Julia, Alphie, Addie and Irvie. Parents, William and Sally (Conkey) Montgomery.

Potts, William M., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Marathon in 1850; wife, Julia F. Montgomery, daughter of Dubois and Mary Etta Montgomery, born in 1852, married in 1873. Parents, Cornelius M. and Cynthia (Martin) Potts, who settled in Marathon in 1842; the former died in 1871, aged 58 years, the latter died in 1883, aged 71; one child.

Reed, Dr. Aaron D., p. o. Marathon, physician and surgeon, born in Delaware county in 1824, settled in county in 1854; wife, Marion Hubbell, born in 1831; married in 1849, children two: Mary Eva, and Ida Viola. Parents, Oliver and Eunice (De Long) Reed; the former of Connecticut, the latter of Delaware county, settled in Cortland in 1850. Dr. Reed was a graduate of the Castleton Medical College in 1849, settled in Middletown in 1854, moved to Cincinnatus in 1869, then moved to Marathon, where he still resides.

Shevalier, Bruce C., p. o. Marathon, farmer and dairyman, born in Marathon in 1856, has held district offices; wife, Alphie Montgomery, born in 1856; married in 1882. Parents, Nicholas and Delia (Barnes) Shevalier; the former born in Virgil and died in 1882, the latter in Delaware Co., N. Y., died in 1883, aged 48, children five: Bruce C., Charles T., Mary, Jennie L., and Fannie D. Grandfather John Shevalier was one of the first settlers in Virgil.

Smith, Alfred G., p. o. Marathon, dealer in boots and shoes and rubber goods, born in London, England, in 1827, came to this country in 1845, to Syracuse in 1846, and to Marathon in 1861, has been a member of the board of education, and twice president of the village, has taken an active part in Republican politics, having frequently served as a delegate to the county, congressional, senatorial and State conventions of the party; is a man of fine literary abilities and attainments, public spirited and energetic, having been identified with most of the improvements in Marathon during his residence in the

village; was married in 1850 to Annie Kimber, daughter of the late Thos. Kimber, Esq., of Onondaga. Mr. Smith commenced the business he is now engaged in, in 1861.

Smith, John L., p. o. Marathon, farmer, born in Pitcher, Chenango county in 1832, settled in county in 1869, was assessor three terms and held other district offices; wife, Hannah M. Tanner, daughter of L. D. Tanner, born in 1838; married in 1857, children three: Charles F., Lawson J., and Manson L. Parents, Edward and Mary (Lawson) Smith; the former died at Marathon, in 1875, the latter in Chenango county; children two. Mr. John Smith was one of thirteen to organize the Marathon Grange society, in 1882; it numbered 70 members in 1883, and is in a flourishing condition.

Squires, George P., p. o. Marathon, farmer and stock breeder, born in Marathon in 1839; wife, Ann E. Pennoyer, daughter of Garret and Eliza Jane Pennoyer, born in 1840; married in 1862, one child, Harry, born in 1866. Parents, William and Lucy (Church) Squires, the former born in 1798, settled in Marathon in 1801, with his father and mother, the latter born in Brattleboro, Vt., in 1802, married in 1823, children eleven, three now living.

Stanley, Davison H., p. o. Marathon, retired farmer, born in Virgil in 1817; wife, Eliza M. Johnson; married in 1843, and died in 1844; second wife, Julia A. Johnson, born in 1819, married in 1845, children three: Minard H., born in 1848 and died in 1849, Seward S., born in 1852 and Edgar H., born in 1855. Parents, Harris and Anna (Sedgwick) Stanley; the former of Massachusetts, who died in 1883, the latter of Connecticut, died in 1861, children three.

Stockwell, Willard, p. o. Marathon, born in Bainbridge, Chenango county, in 1828, settled in Marathon in 1882, was justice of peace, town clerk and postmaster of Lapeer; wife, Susan Allison, of Chenango county; married in 1849, children two: William A., born in 1855, and Katie, born in 1867. Parents, Abel and Milly (Davis) Stockwell. Mr. Stockwell formed a stock company, called the Marathon Stockwell wagon manufacturing company in Marathon in 1882, and at present gives employment to twenty to twenty-five hands and intends to further enlarge the factory and increase its capacity.

Tripp, James H., p. o. Marathon, banker, of Tripp & Adams.

Turner, Russell, p. o. Marathon, retired farmer, born in Long Island in 1804, settled in county in 1811; wife, Agnes Shepard, daughter of Robinson and Abigail (Leach) Shepard, of Connecticut, born in Madison county in 1804; married in 1827, one adopted son, J. Edwin Turner, born in 1833. Parents, Samuel and Clarissa (Rogers) Turner, of Long Island, who settled in Virgil in 1811, moving by wagon with three children; they had nine children in all, four of which are now living. The father died in 1867, and the mother died in Indiana a few years since.

Webster, George W., p. o. Marathon, dealer in flour, feed, coal, etc., born in Freetown in 1836, was county treasurer three years and collector four years; wife Maria A. Fairchild, of Pitcher, Chenango county, born in 1841; married in 1863, one child, Jay, born in 1866. Parents Harvey S. and Ann (Leach) Webster, the former born in 1800 in Vermont, came to county in 1818, died in 1870, the latter born in Cortland county in 1795, married in 1818, children nine. George W. enlisted in Co. K, 44th N. Y. volunteers, September 25th, 1861, served until the loss of his arm in the second battle of Bull Run, in 1862, and now draws a pension.

Wightman, Homer, p. o. Marathon, cheese manufacturer and stock dealer, born in Schoharie county in 1832, settled in county in 1836, was assessor three terms; wife, Catharine Smith, born in Herkimer county in 1835; married in 1856, children four: Dudley A., Daniel E., Clara, and Earl B. Parents, Daniel and Emeline (Post) Wightman, the former of Connecticut, born in 1802, the latter of Schoharie county, died in Freetown, leaving five children.

Wilcox, Thurston, p. o. Marathon, retired farmer, born in Rhode Island in 1803, settled in county in 1841, came to Marathon in 1863, held town offices in Willet; wife, Lydia Townsend, of New Hampshire; married in 1830, died in 1864, leaving two children: Frances T., and Emeline, Second wife, Mahala Stewart, married in 1867. and died in 1869; third wife, Mrs. Fannie A. (Pratt) Comstock; married in 1871, chidren two, by first husband: Charles E., and Wallace R. Pollard.

Winter, Nicholas H., farmer and stock dealer, one mile, east of Marathon village, born in Virgil June 24th, 1838. Parents, Ambrose and Lydia (Hugaboom) Winter, prominent and early settlers of Virgil, Cortland county; wife, Susan A. Pierce, daughter of Lyman Pierce; married in 1862, died in 1867, leaving one daughter, Cora B., born March 19th, 1866. Second wife, Martha A. Tillinghast, daughter of Thomas Tillinghast, born Sept. 2d, 1848, in Freetown, married June 18th, 1875.

Wood, Stephen, M., p. o. Marathon, cooper, born in Rensselaer county in 1830, settled in county in 1844; wife, Mariette E. Seeber, born in 1829; married in 1852, children three: Howard S., Carrie L., and Lena E. Parents, Thomas D. and Aseneth Wood, who settled in county in 1844. Mr. Wood began the cooperage business in Marathon in 1863, and in 1874 entered into partnership under the name of S. M. Wood & Co., until 1881, when he sold out and built a factory on the east side of the river 40 by 32, where he put in steam power and improved machinery which enables him to do the best of work.

PREBLE.

Aldrich Seth, p. o. Preble, retired farmer, owns 200 acres, born in Vermont in 1806, settled in county in 1813, was supervisor, assessor, highway commissioner, and poormaster for fifteen years; wife, Elmira Smith, of Connecticut, married in 1830, children three: Mary L., now Mrs. Richard Squire, of Preble, Alice D., now Mrs. Frank L. Hall, M. D., of Amber, and George H., who died in 1873.

Beattie, James A., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 112 acres, born in Dunfrieshire, Scotland, settled in county in 1850; wife, Mary Jane Egbertson, of Preble, daughter of Barnet and Mary Egbertson, natives of Greene county; married in 1876.

Briggs, John B., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 170 acres, born in Delhi, N. Y., in 1828; wife, Augusta N. Dunbar, born in Poughkeepsie N. Y., 1835, daughter of Elam and Catharine (Millard) Dunbar, of Preble, who came to county in 1845; married in 1852, children three living: Marshall A., Walter D., and Fred M. Parents, John and Nancy (Bailey) Briggs, who came to Preble in 1845.

Butler, Adelbert, p. o. Preble, farmer and stock dealer, born in Preble in 1841, owns 180 acres, was assessor and highway commissioner; wife, Aronett Welch, daughter of Russell F., and Azubah (Ingalls) Welch, of St. Lawrence county, N. Y., married in 1865. Parents, Thomas E. and Tamor (Drake) Butler, who came from Connecticut to county in 1815.

Butler, Roscoe, p. o. Preble, born in Preble in 1835, farmer, and owns 140 acres, has been assessor nine years; wife, Catherine Gleason; married in 1859, children four: Fannie M., Edward J., Thomas I., and Ida B. Parents, Thomas E. and Tamor (Drake) Butler, who came from Connecticut and settled in this county in 1815.

Collier, Casper, p. o. Preble, farmer, born in Preble in 1807, was constable and collector; wife, Hannah Severson, daughter of Nicholas and Jane Severson, who came to county in 1808; married in 1828, children four, two living: Franklin J., of Preble, and Nicholas D. Parents, John and Hannah Collier, descendants of the Holland Dutch.

Collier, Franklin J., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 250 acres, born in Pike, Alleghany county, in 1837, settled in county in 1842, was justice of peace; first wife, Lydia Crofoot, daughter of David and Elizabeth Crofoot; married in 1861, children two: Lucy, now Mrs. P. McCormick, of Preble, and F. Edward; second wife, Lydia C. Van Buskirk, of Preble; married in 1876, one child, Bessie C.

Crofoot, David O., p. o. Preble, flour, feed and lumber mill, born in Preble in 1833, was supervisor and assessor; wife, Sarah E. Tallman, of Tully; married in 1867, children four: John T., Mary E., Henry C., and Wellington A.

Cummings, Adrian, p. o. Tully, farmer and surveyor, born in Preble in 1842, owns 100 acres, the original farm owned by his father, also by his grandfather; wife, Sophia Willis, of Tully; married in 1866, children four: Willis E., Cora L., Chester E., and Julia R.

Cummings, Chester, p. o. Tully, retired, owns 150 acres, born in Preble in 1815; wife, Deborah; married in 1838, children two: Abigail Leona, and Lurinda Elmerrah.

Cummings, Corwin E., p. o. Tully, farmer, owns 100 acres, born in Preble in 1853; wife, Belle, daughter of Theron and Sarah E. Klock; married in 1877, one child, Ada. Parents, William and Patty M. Cummings; grandparents, Edward and Sally Cummings.

Cummings, Harlan P., p. o. Tully, farmer, born in Preble in 1840, owns 100 acres, was highway commissioner; wife, Mary N. Banks, of Delaware county; married in 1864, children two: Herbert A., and Erwin E. Parents, Silas and Amanda Taggart.

Cummings, Harvey, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 143 acres, born in Preble in 1820, was highway commissioner; wife, Lydia A. Baldwin, of Cayuga county; married in 1842, children two: Orlando J., and Alice C. (now Mrs. Edwin P. Ide), of Brooklyn, N. Y. Parents, Edward and Sally Cummings.

Cummings, Homer, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 104 acres, born in Preble in 1848; wife, Harriet Shevalier daughter of Isaac and Nancy A. (Smith) Shevalier; married in 1874, one child, Angie L. Parents, William and Martha M. Cummings.

Cummings, James, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 156 acres, born in Preble Nov. 5th, 1834; wife, Cornelia M. Miles, of Fabius, Onondaga county, born in 1835; married in 1855, children two: James M., born in Preble, December 30th, 1856, and married Emeline G. Thayer, of Fabius, in 1881, and Estella D., born in 1858 (now Mrs. Edward G. Wallace), of Fabius. Parents, Edward and Abigail Cummings.

Cummings, John B., p. o. Tully, farmer, owns 400 acres in valley two miles south from Tully, born in Preble in 1832; wife, Frances C. Jones, of Auburn, N. Y.; married in 1852, children three: Charles J., a farmer; Frederick D., senior in Cornell University; and Frank, preparing for legal professon, with Duell and Benedict, Cortland N. Y. Parents, Edward and Abigail Cummings, who settled here in 1800.

Cummings, Marvin E., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 88 acres; wife, Frank Reynolds, daughter of John W. and Emeline (Briggs) Reynolds, of Preble; married in 1866, children two: Eva M., and Clifford J. Parents, Edward and Mary (Van Hoesen) Cummings.

Gray, John E., p. o. Preble, born in Hamden, Delaware county, N. Y., in 1840, farmer, owns 75 acres; wife, Flora Terwilliger, daughter of Lewis and Lucy (Briggs) Terwilliger, of Preble; married in 1867, children two: Lewis A., and Frank D.

Harris, Naomi, p. o. Preble, owns 250 acres, daughter of Cyrus and Lucy (Spring) Harris, who came from Stephentown, N. Y., in 1809; children six: Cynthia, Loretta, Lucy, Cyrus H., Naomi S., and Nicholas P. Naomi is the only one who survives and lives on the old homestead.

Hobart, Seth, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 120 acres, born in Erie county in 1830, was assessor nine years, is present justice of the peace; wife, Cordelia M. Van Patten, of Preble, married in 1852. Parents, Leman and Letticia (Shevalier) Hobart.

Horter, Henry F., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 113 acres, born in Herkimer county in 1841, was highway commissioner one term; wife, Lydia Schell, daughter of Markes and Elizabeth (Fulmer), of Herkimer, Herkimer county; married in 1862, children four: Mary E., Martha M., Isaac and Belle. Parents, Isaac and Mary A. Hysard.

Hunt, Herman D., p. o. Preble, physician and surgeon, born in Moravia in 1846, settled in county in 1855, was a graduate of Syracuse University; wife, Emma A. Hobart, of Preble; married in 1872, children two: D. S. and Iva.

Manchester, James H., p. o. Preble, born in Preble in 1831, farmer, owns 310 acres; wife, Nancy E. Joslyn, daughter of Daniel and Maria Utley; married in 1858, children three: J. Eugene, Minnie E. and Jennie A.

Maycomber, Geo. W., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 200 acres, born in Preble in 1833; wife, Huldah Roe, daughter of John W. and Prudence (Sheldon) Roe, of Scott; married in 1859, children six living: Frank E., Flora V., now Mrs. Carl Mulnex, of Scott, Geo. W., Helen D., Mildred D. and Roe S. Parents, Matthew and Phœbe A. (Wilder) Maycomber.

Morgan, W. A., p. o. Preble, blacksmith and carriage maker, born in Tully in 1844, settled in Cortland county in 1868; wife, Julia E. Lewis, of Fabius, N. Y.; married in 1865; W. A. enlisted in 10th N. Y. S. V. and served four years.

Outt, S. D., p. o. Preble, miller, born in Preble in 1850, was justice of the peace in Taylor; wife,

Josaphene A. Hays, of Auburn, married in 1874, one child, Pearl C.

Price, Richard P., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 88 acres, born in Homer in 1849; wife, Madora B. Hammond, born in Otsego county; married in Homer in 1870. Parents, Joseph and Harriet (Whitney) Price, of Wayne county; the former born in New Jersey, came to Wayne county, and from thence to Cortland county.

Pratt, Orrin, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Homer in 1816, was justice of peace and poormaster; first wife, Ruth E. Capren, of Montgomery county; married in 1838, children four: Climena (now Mrs. D. M. M. Cummings, of Homer), Amelia, who died in 1882, wife of N. Collier, of Preble, Melvin J. Pratt of Homer, and Esther E. (now Mrs. La Fayette Churchill of Ill.); second wife, Sophia C. Howard, of Preble; married in 1851, children three: Abigail R., Nellie S., who died in 1864, and Carrie B., who died in 1869.

Reynolds, John W., p. o. Preble, born in Delhi, N. Y., in 1818, farmer, owns 70 acres; wife, Emeline Briggs, daughter of John D. and Nancy (Bailey) Briggs, of Delhi; married in 1843, children three: De Francie L., now Mrs. Marvin Cummings, of Preble, Edwin J. and Lucy M. Parents, Elisha and Rachael (Van Hoesen) Reynolds.

Salisbury, Wm., p. o. Preble, retired farmer, born in Woodstock in 1819, moved to Christian Hollow at two years of age, settled in Cortland county in 1865, was assessor and justice of peace; wife, Francis S. Daley, of Connecticut, married in 1852.

Stanton, Elijah, p. o. Preble, farmer and owner of Preble mill, 266 acres, born in Little Falls, April 11th, 1805; wife, Anna Feeter, born in Little Falls, Jan. 9th, 1808; married Jan. 14th, 1828, children living five: James, Geo. H., Emily, Elizabeth (now Mrs. Walter Nelson), and John W.

Van Buskirk, Robert H., p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 62 acres, born in Preble in 1833; wife, Juliette Manchester, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Manchester, of Preble; married in 1858, children two: Eureta and John H. Parents, Isaac and Elizabeth Van Buskirk.

Van Hoesen, Matthias, p. o. Preble, retired, owns 15 acres, born in Athens in 1805, settled in county on lot 68, Preble, and removed to Preble village in 1830, where he now resides, was constable, collector, justice of the peace twenty years, supervisor fourteen years and twice chairman of the board; wife, Susan Talley, born in Athens; married in 1829, children nine: Louisa, Susan M., John F., Eugene M., Catharine A., Helen M., Flavilla J., Harriet H. and Fred T. John F. and Harriet H. are now dead.

Van Denburgh, Cornelius, p. o. Preble, born in Scott in 1836, farmer, owns 60 acres; wife, Mary A. Tabor, daughter of George and Louis (Victory) Tabor, of Cato, Cayuga county; married in 1861, one child, N. Tabor. Parents, Richard and Leah (Collier) Van Denburgh, natives of Coxsackie, N. Y.

Van Patten, John R., p. o. Preble, born in Preble in 1815, farmer, owns 500 acres, was assessor, road commissioner, and justice of the peace; wife, Betsey Egbertson, daughter of Andrew and Deborah (Shevalier) Egbertson; married in 1839, children eight. Parents, Ryer and Mary (Spence) Van Patten, who came here in 1809.

Wilber, Isaac, p. o. Preble, farmer, owns 72 acres, born in Scipio, N. Y., in 1818, settled in county in 1819, was town collector in 1847; wife, Eliza H. Maycomber, daughter of Humphrey and Polly (Willis) Maycomber, who came to county in 1839; married in 1843, children seven, five living: Frances M., now Mrs. Ransom Pierce, of Broome county, Helen, now Mrs. Theron Gutches, of Homer, Geo. A., Charles E., and Carrie E., now Mrs. J. Taylor of Cortland. Parents, Thomas and Mariam Wilber, who came here in 1819.

Wright, William W., p. o. Preble, station agent of S. B. & N. Y. R. R., born in Preble in 1845, was overseer of poor, town auditor, justice of peace, elected supervisor in February, 1883, and re-elected in 1884; wife, Lucinda Lampman; married in 1869, children four: Geo. W., Charles S., Lena R. and William W., Jr.

SCOTT.

Ames, Samuel D., p. o. East Scott, farmer, owns 107 acres, born in Scott in 1854, is present

justice of peace and school trustee; wife, Maggie J. Adams, daughter of Richard and Ellen (McDonald) Adams; married in 1877, children three: Alvin G., Richard J., and Jennie S. Parents, Alvin B. and Celestia C. (Case) Ames. The former died in 1862.

Babcock, L. H., p. o. Scott, physician and surgeon, born in Scott in 1833, was justice of peace, associate judge, coroner and notary public; wife, Surnia A. Babcock, of Scott; married in 1857, children two. Mr. Babcock attended the New York City Homœopathic Medical College in 1868 and 1869, has been in constant practice since 1869, received diploma from the Homœopathic Medical society of the counties of Tompkins, Tioga and Cortland in 1875; has grown into an extensive and lucrative practice, extending into three counties and is often called in consultation to neighboring cities and villages.

Babcock, Raymond P., p. o. Scott, retired, born in Hopkinton, R. I., in 1799, settled in county in 1824, was supervisor, assessor, justice of peace and member of assembly; first wife, Olive Denison, of Fabius; married in 1823, children six: Lucy L., Andrew J., George P., Harvey W., Adelia E., and Olive J.; second wife, Phœbe A. Camp, of Connecticut; married in 1848, one child, Sarah C.

Black, Norman C., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 167 acres, born in Scott in 1831. Parents, Ely and Louisa (Hull) Black; the former a native of Massachusetts, the latter of Connecticut, who came to county in 1827.

Brown, Wm. Francis, born in Scott, Feb. 10th, 1838, farmer, owns 117 acres; wife, Angeline Hart, daughter of John and Annie (Thompson) Hart; married Sept. 4th, 1862, children four: Ella M., Merton D., Jay D. and Earl Durell. Parents, Jesse and Mary (Ostrander) Brown.

Butts, Elias H., p. o. Scott, farmer, born at Belvidere, N. Y., in 1813, came with his parents to Dryden in 1825, settled in Virgil in 1838, married in 1839; wife, Laura Terpening, daughter of Merenes Terpening, who settled in Virgil in 1814; children three: Reuben, and Ortogral P., who enlisted in 1862 in Co. E, 157th N. Y. S. V., and who died at Alexandria, Va., in 1882, and Effie A., now Mrs. Edwin D. Hutchinson, M. D., of Huntington, Mass.

Childs, Ernest W., p. o. Scott, manufacturer of lumber, born in Scott in 1853; wife, Hattie E. Burdick, of Brooklyn, N. Y., daughter of A. B. and Amanda M. (Hardy) Burdick; married in 1883. Parents, Hon. Samuel A. and Lucelia (Whiting) Childs, of Scott.

Childs, Hon. Samuel A., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 160 acres, born in Tioga county in 1830, settled in county in 1847, was supervisor ten terms, chairman of board in 1877, and member of assembly in 1880; wife, Lucelia O. Whiting, of Scott; married in 1853; children three: Ernest W., Henry W., and Harold, who died in 1877. Parents, Charles and Mary (Hemstraught) Childs; the former was a native of Connecticut.

Cottrell, John B., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 520 acres, born in Scott in 1826, and still resides on the original lot No. 62 where he was born, was supervisor and assessor six years; wife, Sarah Barker, of Spafford, N. Y.; married in 1848, children ten; Wm. J., Mary I., J. D., Ella, Emma J., Sallie, Lottie, who died in 1879, George N., Jerry, and Charles, who died in the same year. Parents, Jeremiah and Sally (Peckham) Cottrell, of Rensselaer county, who settled here in 1817.

Cottrell, William J., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 122 acres, born in Scott in 1849, is present assessor; wife, Lizzie J. Lee, daughter of Ely and Emily (James) Lee, of Cuyler; married in 1881, children two: John E. and Grace E. Parents, John B. and Sarah M. (Barker) Cottrell.

Cutler, Dwight K., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 315 acres, born in Cayuga county in 1835, settled in county in 1869, was justice of peace and supervisor two terms; wife, Phœbe K. Wilcox; married in 1857, children three: Mary E., Alice M. and X. Cutler.

Frisbie, Elias T., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 43 acres, born in Scott in the house he now owns and occupies in 1844; wife, Oresta L. Abbott, daughter of Alfred and Esther H. Abbott; married in 1865, children two: Fannie D., Edith E. Parents, George and Hannah (Babcock) Frisbie; the former was a native of Connecticut and came to county in 1817.

Gillett, Charles, p. o. Scott, farmer and sawmill, born in 1852; wife, Theodocia Ripley, daughter of John and Sarah (Peak) Ripley; married in 1879. Parents, John and Julia (Peak) Gillett.

Gillett, Joel, p. o. Scott, proprietor of grist and feed mill and manufacturer of carriages, born in 1847, was appointed postmaster at East Scott in 1879, his grandfather was the first postmaster, the office being discontinued, and Joel was appointed when the office was reopened; wife, Ella L. Van Camp, born in Tully in 1859, children three: Earl H., Mabel V. and Eva B.

Gillett, John, p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 235 acres, born in Scott in 1838, member of the firm of Gillett & Miller, dealers in agricultural implements; wife, Alice N. Saltmarsh, daughter of Thomas W. and Sarah A. (Stevens) Saltmarsh; married in 1865, children four: John S., Nora A., Kate L. and Scott.

Green, G. W., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 45 acres, born in Madison county in 1814, settled in county in 1834, was justice of peace and collector; wife, Harriet Burdick, daughter of Joseph and Polly (Stillman) Burdick, who settled here about 1807; married in 1838, children two.

Hazard, Francis M., p. o. Scott, manufacturer of lumber, of the firm of Hazard & Childs, owns 40 acres; wife, Eliza A. (Frink) Scott, daughter of Martin and Nancy Frink. Parents, Henry and Almira (Anthony) Hazard.

Hazard, Henry, p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Spafford in 1816, settled in Scott in 1843; married in 1841 to Almira Anthony, daughter of Rufus and Hannah (Billings) Anthony, children three: Francis M., Nancy F. and Myron J. Rufus Anthony came into Scott in 1804 with his parents at the age of fourteen; he was in his 93d year when he died.

Kellogg, C. S., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 220 acres, born in Cayuga county in 1822, settled in county in 1825, was supervisor three terms, and assessor several years; wife, Amanda A. Salisbury, daughter of Nathan and Lucretia (Babcock) Salisbury; married in 1845, children three: William A., a druggist of Homer, Emeline A., and Charles L., of New York. Parents, Alvan and Sylvia (Stowe) Kellogg, natives of Cayuga county, who settled here in 1825. Mr. Kellogg was a dresser of cloth in New Hope, and Millard Fillmore, who became president of the United States, learned his trade of him. He built a clothing-mill here in 1826, and in 1843 built the saw-mill now used by Hazard & Whiting. He was supervisor for several years and served in the state legislature as assemblyman one year.

Morgan, William H., p. o. Scott, harness manufacturer, born in Brookfield, Madison county, N. Y., settled in county in 1866, was postmaster since 1872, supervisor in 1882–83, and town clerk since 1870, enlisted in Co. D, 157th N. Y. Vols., served till close of war, was commissioned first lieutenant in 1864; wife, Flora Churchill, of Spafford; married in 1871, children five: Eva, May, Bessie, John and Florence.

Newman, James W., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Little Falls, Herkimer county, in 1844, settled here in 1867, was in Co. F, 157th N. Y. Vols., and served three years; wife, Sarah Van Denburgh, of Scott, daughter of Richard and Leah (Collier) Van Denburgh; married in 1870, one child, Maude Leah.

Northway, Jerad H., p. o. Scott, born in Norfolk, Conn., in 1803, came to Homer with his parents in 1805, removed to Scott in 1810; wife, Mary E. Hull, a native of Connecticut, who died in 1881; one adopted child, who still lives with Mr. Northway.

Peck, A. T., p. o. Scott, born in Scott in 1821, farmer, owns 155 acres; wife, Jane E., daughter of Eri and Mary (Cottrell) Pickett; married in 1863, children two: Edward J., and Charles E. Parents, Joel and Abigail (Tuttle) Peck, natives of Chesire Conn., who settled here in 1815.

Pickett, E. Franklin, p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 180 acres, born in Scott in 1834, is present road commissioner; wife, Alvina J. Branch, born in Cayuga county; married in 1858, one child, Wallace F. Parents, Eri and Mary (Cottrell) Pickett, the former came from Connecticut in 1804.

Potter, E. H. P., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 130 acres, born in Petersburgh, N. Y., in 1818, held several important offices in town; wife, Roxana E. Burdick, daughter of Jesse and Sally (Babcock) Burdick, who settled here in 1805; married in 1842, children three: Harlan E. J., a farmer, Leman W., now a physician in Homer, and Mary E. Parents, Ezekiel G. and Abigail (West) Potter, who settled on farm now occupied by son, in March, 1819.

Salisbury, Artemas, p. o. Scott, farmer, born in

Homer in 1812, first wife, Mary T. Cushing; married in 1836, one child, Mary T., now Mrs. Eugene F. Whitcomb, of Wisconsin; second wife, Delia J. Frink, daughter of Martin and Nancy (Barber) Frink; married in 1874, one child, Artemas H. Parents, Major Thomas and Hannah (Fisk) Salisbury, natives of Rhode Island, who settled in Homer in 1810.

Stoker, Walter L., p. o. East Scott, farmer, owns 90 acres, born in Homer in 1848; wife, Rhoda Kennedy, daughter of Thomas and Sally (Price) Kennedy, who settled in Homer in 1824; married in 1873, one child, Margaret F. Parents, John and Rachel (Black) Stoker.

Stoker, John H., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 70 acres, born in Homer in 1847; wife, Nancy F. Hazard, granddaughter of Rufus Anthony, who settled here in 1804; married in 1869, children two: Mira R., and Herman H. Parents, John and Rachel (Black) Stoker, natives of England.

Salisbury, Nathan, p. o. Little York, born in 1793, settled in Homer in 1807, and in Scott in 1814, owns 220 acres, was justice of the peace, assessor, road commissioner, and supervisor a number of terms; wife, Lucretia A. Babcock, of Massachusetts; married in 1818, and died in 1881, leaving eight children: Amanda A., Charles B., James H., who is a leading physician of New York city, Milton L., Burdette J., Charlotte A., William W., and Nathan, jr.

Underwood, Harlow E., p. o. Scott, farmer, owns 103 acres, born in Chenango county in 1823, settled in county in 1835, was justice of peace and assessor; wife, Phoebe Ames, daughter of Samuel and Polly (Brown) Ames; married in 1851, children five: Adelia A., Jay B., Eugene H., Addie B., and George H. Parents, Chester and Betsey (Tuttle) Underwood, the former of Massachusetts, and the latter of Connecticut.

Warner, T. R., p. o. Scott, farmer, born in Preble in 1829, was constable and is present deputy sheriff; wife, Eliza A. Bassett, daughter of George and Sarah (Russell) Bassett; married in 1851, children five: Lillian M. (Mrs. Arthur L. Williams), Antoinette E. (Mrs. Ansel D. Fisk), of Homer, Frank T., of Moravia, Minnie A., and Jesse F.

Whiting, Anson L., p. o. Scott, farmer and retired merchant, owns 407 acres, born in Kent, Litchfield county, Conn., in 1807, came to Spafford, Onondaga county in 1811, settled in county 1831, was road commissioner in 1833, assessor in 1834–40, supervisor and town clerk several years, also justice of peace and overseer of poor; wife, Nancy Burdick; married in 1829, children five: Lucelia, now Mrs. Samuel A. Childs, Henry Lee, Hamilton J., Francina W., now Mrs. James B. Spencer, and Adel, now Mrs. Leland Griffin, all of Scott.

Whiting, Hamilton I., p. o. Scott, merchant, born in Scott in 1839, was supervisor in 1884; wife, Josephine A. Truman, daughter of Dr. Wm. M. and Huldah Truman; married in 1859, children four: Willie I., Lena M., Merton A., and Mary E. Parents, Anson L. and Nancy (Burdick) Whiting, the former a native of Connecticut.

SOLON.

Adams, Eli, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Pittsfield, Otsego county, in 1812, was assessor and justice of the peace; wife, Phœbe Miller, daughter of Abner and Mary (Kelsey) Miller, married in 1838. Parents, Azor and Hannah Laflin, of Otsego county.

Atkins, Lorenzo B., p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 93 acres, born in Richmondville, Schoharie Co., in 1838, enlisted in Co. G, 185th N. Y. S. V. in 1864; wife, Patience M. Walker, daughter of Samuel and Lucy (Rice) Walker, married in 1864; children three: Ida M., Annie L. and Floyd L.

Barnes, John, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1841, enlisted in Co. G, 76th N. Y. S. V. in 1861, was discharged in 1864 for the loss of an arm at the battle of Fredericksburg.

Bean, Milford G., p. o. McGrawville, farmer, born in Solon in 1848, was justice of the peace; wife, Lydia A. Brownell, of Solon, married in 1874; one child: Louis A. Bean. Parents, Albert and Adelia (Wheeler) Bean.

Daugherty, James, p. o. Solon, born in Solon in 1857, studied law with Bouton & Champlin, of Cortland, and was admitted to the bar in 1881, was supervisor of Solon when he was twenty-one years of age and has been elected

to the seventh term in succession, was the candidate before the people last fall for member of assembly.

Finn, James, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 137 acres, born May 28th, 1831; wife, Laura Harvey, daughter of Calvin and Polly (Wheeler) Harvey, of Solon, born Feb, 22d, 1832, married in 1854; children four: Nettie L., now Mrs. Emory A. Ford, Eddie J., Eva A. and Willie L. Parents, Thomas and Polly (Phelps) Finn.

Hewitt, Henry, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 150 acres, born in Monroe county in 1846, enlisted in Co. K, 85th N. Y. S. V., in 1861, served his time and re-enlisted in the field and served during the war. Nine companies of his regiment were captured and he was held a prisoner; wife, Lucy Underwood, married in 1871; children two: Carrie and Lottie J. Parents, Henry and Sally (Hollenbeck) Hewitt, natives of Monroe county.

Holden, Edward C., p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 135 acres, born in Solon in 1839; wife, Jemima Watrous, daughter of George and Jemima (Travers) Watrous, now of Ohio, married in 1861, one child: May Bell. Parents, John and Sally (Cotton) Holden, who settled in county in 1820.

Livingston, John D., p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 100 acres, born in Solon in 1840; wife, Ruth E. Cline, daughter of Daniel and Malissa (Curtis) Cline, of Chenango county, married in 1860; children two: Clara M., now Mrs. E. A. Dwight, of Chenango county, and Burton J.

McKendrick, John, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 365 acres, born in Westchester county, N. Y., in 1832, was justice of the peace, collector, commissioner of highways and assessor; wife, Bridget Farl, of Pennsylvania, married in 1864; children six living: John J., Daniel, Charles, Maggie, James P. and Mary. Parents, Peter and Bridget (Cain) McKendrick.

Maybury, John R., p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 65 acres, born in Solon in 1828, enlisted in Co. L, 10th N. Y. V. cavalry and served three years, was corporal, and is present justice of the peace; wife, Emogene Pierce, daughter of A. T. and Judy A. Pierce, of Truxton, married in 1866; children four: Mary R., Rena D., Helen and Sarah. Parents, Josiah and Dorcas (Blake) Maybury, who came to county in 1807.

Maybury, Lucian B., p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 47 acres, was constable, collector and assessor six years, born in Solon in 1837; wife, Marcia Auringer, daughter of Moses and Hope (Darling) Auringer, of Onondaga county, married in 1857; children three: Delphene, now Mrs. John Monroe, of Solon, Nettie, now Mrs. Henry A. Webster, of Virgil, and Fred D. Parents, Josiah J. and Dorcas (Blake) Maybury.

Pritchard, Amos, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 60 acres, born in Greenbush in 1807, was highway commissioner, collector and assessor; wife, Margaret Rankin, daughter of Joel Rankin, of Truxton, married in 1832; children four: Harriet E., Joel C., Jane E. and Uri A.

Pritchard, Garret (deceased), was born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1792, settled in Solon in 1808 and died in 1874, aged 82; first wife, Philena Beebe, married in 1815; children three: Albert, Chauncey and Louisa; second wife, Huldah Ford, married in 1848; children two: Garret P. and Lucetta A.

Rawley, James H., p. o. McGrawville, farmer, occupies 225 acres, born in Oneida county in 1836, held town offices several terms; wife, Emma Evans, daughter of Mordica and Elmina (Hulbert) Evans, of Freetown, married in 1858; children four: Hattie E., Charles H., Milton B. and Cora A. Parents, Daniel and Almira (Allen) Rawley, natives of Oneida county.

Shuler, Wm. C., p. o. McGrawville, born in Montgomery county in 1829; wife, Esther M. Eastman, daughter of William and Lydia (Taylor) Eastman, married in 1857; children two: Willis D. and Florence N. Parents, Remson and Hannah (Haughton) Shuler, who came to county in 1830.

Stevens, John (deceased), born in Solon in 1810 and died in 1883; wife, Jane Darling, daughter of William and Polly (Hunt) Darling, who came to county in 1830. Parents, John and Thankful (Cady) Stevens.

Stevens, Silas, p. o. Solon, farmer, owns 75 acres, born in Solon in 1828, is excise commissioner; wife, Eliza M. Priest, daughter of James and Mary (Taylor) Priest, of Chenango county, married in 1866; children three: Ida May, Burtie B. and Henry S. Parents, Joseph and Diantha (Pritchard) Stevens.

Underwood, Reuben, p. o. McGrawville, farmer, owns 105 acres, born in Solon in 1847; wife, Mary Stafford, daughter of Josiah and Eliza Stafford, born in England, married in 1868; children two: Ida A. and George E. Parents, Eliab and Julia A. (Madison) Underwood, natives of county.

Walker, Isaac J., p. o. McGrawville, farmer, owns 62 acres, born in Montgomery county in 1839, settled in Solon in 1857, was supervisor three years, 1877–'80, enlisted in Co. C, 157th N. Y. S. V., in 1862, served during the war; wife, Lucinda Pierce, daughter of Isaac and Polly (Gordenier) Pierce, married in 1866; children five: Helen S., Charles W., George S., Moss K. and Thomas I. Parents, Samuel and Lucy (Rice) Walker, of Montgomery county, the former died in 1875.

TAYLOR.

Angel, Almon, p. o. Union Valley, farmer, owns 112 acres, born in county in 1841, was justice of the peace and road commissioner; wife, Vira J. Kinney, born in county in 1844, married in 1866; one daughter: S. Maude.

Bort, George H., p. o. Taylor, farmer and dealer in agricultural implements, owns 102 acres, born in Madison county in 1851, settled in county in 1852; wife, Ida E. Bolster, born in Steuben county in 1854, married in 1871; one child: Frances D.

Elwood, Wilson M., p. o. Taylor, farmer, owns 112 acres, born in Chenango county in 1821, settled in Cortland county in 1843, was assessor and commissioner for his town; wife, Olive Williams, born in Chenango county in 1835; children five. Mr. Elwood served in the late rebellion in the 76th regiment.

Finn, Leroy D., p. o. Solon, farmer, born in county in 1838, was commissioner three terms. Father, Robert Finn, came to county in 1817.

Hill, J. O., p. o. Taylor, farmer, owns 214 acres, born in Massachusetts in 1827, settled in county in 1833; first wife, Lucy D. Perry, born in Solon, in 1831, died in 1872; second wife, Mrs. Martha J. Rounds, born in Homer in 1842, married in 1873; children five.

Jipson, Valentine, p. o. Union Valley, merchant, born in county in 1849, has been justice of the peace for eight years.

Miner, Oscar P., p. o. Taylor Center, dairy farmer, 120 acres, born in Spafford, Onondaga county, March 28th, 1841, the fifth of a family of six children, three boys and three girls. He was brought up on a farm and educated in the common school of his native town and at Cortland Academy, Homer, N. Y., from which school, in the fall of 1861, he enlisted in Co. D, 76th N. Y. S. V., and served nearly three years. His father died when he was ten years old and he lived with his sister till old enough to support himself, which he did by working on a farm summers and teaching and attending school falls and winters. At the close of the war in 1865 he settled in Taylor, and was married to Julia M. Bentley of the same place in 1868, who was born in 1849. He has been justice of the peace fourteen years and justice of sessions one year; children two: Floyd B. and Carroll P..

Phelps, I. W., p. o. Cincinnatus, farmer, 200 acres, born in Taylor in 1834, has held the office of supervisor; wife, Almira Cole, born in Cincinnatus in 1840, married in 1864; children three: Karl C., Myra Pearl and Alice Mabel.

TRUXTON.

Bliss, George W., p. o. Truxton, retired merchant, born in Massachusetts in 1822, settled in Truxton in 1823; wife, Sophia F. Hooker, daughter of John H. Hooker, born in 1826, married in 1846; children three: Charles E., Henry S. and George. Parents, George and Charlotte (Ames) Bliss, who settled near Truxton village in 1823.

Gates, Irvin L., p. o. McGrawville, farmer, owns 160 acres, born in Truxton in 1843; wife, Helen M. Safford, daughter of Silas B. and Harrietta (De Lameter) Safford, of Onondaga county, married in 1866; children three: Frank L., Hattie M. and Willie D. Parents, Martin D. and Sally (Dunbar) Gates.

Kenney, Marcus E., junior partner of Kenney & Son, dealers in hardware and agricultural implements, born in Truxton in 1848; wife, Lettie A. Freeman, daughter of Rufus and Emily Freeman, of Truxton, married in 1869; one child: Arthur M. Parents, Hosea M. and Lauretta (Lucas) Kenney, of Truxton.

McKevitt, Henry, p. o. Truxton, farmer and

dairyman, owns 36 acres, born in Ireland in 1818, settled in town in 1828, was assessor one term; wife, Elizabeth Nesbitt, born in Weedsport, Cayuga county, daughter of Allen and Mary Nesbitt, married in 1841; children four: James H., Mary A. Johnson, Nancy J. Severance, and Sarah E. Pierce. Parents, Owen and Judy McKevitt.

Nelson, Judson C., p. o. Truxton, physician and surgeon, born in Danby, Tompkins county, came to Truxton in 1848, is a graduate of the medical college at Geneva, N. Y., was appointed surgeon of the 76th Regt. N. Y. S. V. in 1861, served three years in hospital and field, was elected supervisor thirteen consecutive terms, chairman of the board two terms, and member of assembly two terms; wife, Henrietta S. Walter, of Tioga county, married in 1848; children two: Arthur B., a hardware merchant of Cortland, and M. Isabel, now Mrs. Charles Tillinghast, of Cortland; second wife, Florence Irwin Snyder, of Middleburgh, Schoharie county, N. Y., married in 1883, daughter of Hon. Hadly Snyder, of Middleburgh.

Patrick, Hon. Stephen, p. o. Truxton, insurance agent and farmer, owns 220 acres, born at Saratoga Springs in 1811, settled in town in 1812, was assemblyman in 1866, assessor two years, and supervisor in 1860; wife, Angeline Dickenson, married in 1846; children eight: John W., Alvah, Hattie Gleason, Richard, Eliza Radway, Nathaniel, Nellie and Nelson. Parents, Nathaniel and Penelope (Potter) Patrick.

Saunders, Franklin P., p. o. Truxton, born in Fabius in 1849, dealer in life stock; wife, Hattie L. Peck, daughter of Platt and Mary A. Peck, married in 1879; children two living: Arthur Franklin and Anah Hattie. Parents, Perry H. and Sarah (Emmerson) Saunders.

VIRGIL.

Angell, E. D., p. o. East Virgil, farmer and merchant miller, born in Otsego county in 1816, settled in county in 1817, was assessor in Lapeer three terms; wife, Sarah Lake, born in 1828, married in 1848; children six: Luricia A. Dell, Sarah Lucretia, Julia L., Erasmus D. jr., Jed and James W. Parents, James and Polly Ann (Crandell) Angell, natives of Rhode Island, the former born January 26th, 1775, and died in 1825, the latter born in 1786 and died in 1861; children twelve.

Atwood, Timothy, p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer, born in Otsego county, September 4th, 1808, settled in county in 1809; wife, Eliza Jane Fuller, daughter of James and Mary (Finch) Fuller, born in 1813, married in 1835; one daughter, Helen Eugenie, born in 1847, married Andrew Thayre in 1870; children two. Parents, Joseph H. and Mary (Andrews) Atwood, who settled in county in 1809.

Bloomer, Isaac B., p. o. Virgil, retired, born in Ulster county in 1812; wife, Hannah Trowbridge, born in 1810, married in 1833, died in 1883; children ten, six now living. One son enlisted in Co. A, 76th N. Y. Vols., in 1862, and died soon after his return home, from disease contracted in the army, aged 22. Parents, Isaac and Anna (Barlow) Bloomer, who settled in Virgil on lot 25 in 1815, the former died in Virgil in 1856, aged 73 years, the latter died in 1868, aged 87 years; children seven, two now living.

Branch, Enoch D., p. o. Virgil, farmer, born in Vermont in 1796, settled in county in 1815, and died July 16th, 1876, was supervisor two terms and held other minor offices; wife, Matilda Mynard, daughter of Benajah and Lydia (Purple) Mynard, natives of Connecticut, born in Rensselaer county in 1813, married November 25th, 1838; children seven: Harley H., Butler M., Edwin D., Hepsey P., Mary E., Ellen D. and Rollo P. The latter is a Presbyterian clergyman. Parents, Jeptha and Irene (Arnold) Branch, who settled in Virgil in 1815; children seven, one now living.

Bristol, Benjamin F., p. o. South Cortland, correspondent of the *Cortland News* and farmer by occupation, born in Cortland in 1837; wife, Ophelia Tompkins, daughter of William and Maria (Weaver) Tompkins, born in Westchester county in 1840, married in 1859; children eleven, nine now living: Charles H., born in 1860, William A., in 1862, Clara C., in 1864, John E., in 1865, Georgia A., in 1867, Addie J., in 1869, Lawrence F., in 1873, Emma M., in 1875, and Delta M., in 1881. Parents, Charles and Dolly (Allen) Bristol, the former of Connecticut and the latter of Ohio, married in

1832, the latter died in 1863, aged 52 years; children three: B. F., Cornelia C. and Geo. H.

Bronson, Dr. Horace, p. o. Virgil, physician and surgeon, born in Catskill, Greene county, in 1796, settled in county in 1820 and died in 1874, was a graduate of Hartford College; wife, Polly Ball, daughter of Judge Ball, born in 1803, married in 1822, and died March 31st, 1842; children four, all now dead; second wife, Happy Mott, daughter of Thomas and Susan (Wygant) Mott, born May 12th, 1812, married in 1842; children two: Happy E., born in 1845 and died in 1864, and Senora De Etta, born March 29th, 1851. Parents, David and Nancy Bronson, of Catskill, the former died in Virgil in 1840, and the latter at Adams.

Chaplin, Walter L., p. o. Messengerville, farmer and surveyor, born in Virgil in 1825, was postmaster and supervisor in 1884, and held other offices; first wife, Abigail Shevalier, born in 1828, married in 1849, and died in 1866, children three; second wife, Camilla C. Gault, born in 1827, married in 1868, died in 1873; third wife, Mrs. Rhoda M. (Darling) Shevalier, born in 1838, married in 1874; children three. Parents, Benjamin F. and Lucy (Holden) Chaplin, the former born in Virgil in 1799, and supposed to be the first white child born in Virgil, died in 1882, the latter born in 1800, married in 1820; children two: George H. and Walter L.

Chrisman, Josiah, p. o. Virgil, farmer and stock dealer, born in Oneida county in 1817; wife, Abigail Penney, daughter of David and Fannie (Smith) Penney, who settled in Virgil in 1837, born in 1823, married in 1844; children eight. Parents, William and Nancy (Oaks) Chrisman, who settled in county in 1835; children thirteen, but seven now living.

Curtis, Salmon, p. o. Virgil, farmer and dairyman, born in Sullivan county November 15th, 1812; wife, Harriet Seamans, born in 1822, married in 1840, and died August 1st, 1876; children five; second wife, Augusta Seamans, daughter of Isaac and Amarilla (Sheldon) Seamans and sister of first wife, born in 1843, married in 1878. Parents, Nehemiah and Lusina (Hubbell) Curtis, natives of Connecticut, who came to Virgil in 1830; children eight, three now living.

Dann, George P., p. o. Virgil, farmer and stock dealer, owns 386 acres, born in Virgil in 1822; wife, Marilla Tuller, born in Virgil in 1824, married October 17th, 1844; children four, two now living: Antonnette and Martin L., the former married Reuben Butts in 1866, and the latter married Alice Mason in 1871. Parents, Amariah and Nancy (Purvis) Dann, the former born in 1791, the latter in 1795, married in 1812; children eleven; the former died in Virgil in 1873, and the latter in 1858.

Davern, James, p. o. Virgil, farmer, owns 179 acres, born in Ireland in 1839, settled in county in 1846; wife, Louisa Sawdey, daughter of Asa and Eliza Sawdey, born in 1849, married in 1868; children five: Lizzie M., born in 1870, Susie, in 1872, Rose E., in 1876, Clara L., in 1882, and James Mark, in 1884. Parents, James and Ellen (Ryan) Davern, natives of Ireland, the latter died in Ireland, leaving six sons and two daughters, the former came to Syracuse where he died; James, jr., enlisted in the 185th regiment in 1864, and was discharged at close of war; he was promoted to corporal, was disabled in the war, and received a pension from the government.

Deyoe, Simeon D., p. o. Virgil, born in Harford in 1850, owns 150 acres, was assessor in 1879 and again in 1883; wife, Ann Vinette Green, daughter of Page and Tirzah (Merrill) Green, born in 1838, married in 1873; children two: Glenn and M. C. Page Green was a prominent lawyer of Cortland county, and enjoyed a large practice in his profession; wife, Tirzah, was daughter of John and Joanna Merrill, who came to Connecticut in 1804.

Glazier, Ezra B., p. o. Virgil, farmer, gardener and apiarist, born in Virgil in 1817, was excise commissioner since 1882; wife, Loretta J. Webber, daughter of Rodney and Aurilla (Shepard) Webber, born in 1831, married in 1848; children five: Adin, Dana, Lillie, Nathan B. and Harlan E. Parents, Artemus and Sally (Clark) Glazier, the former born in Massachusetts in 1782, married in 1816, died in 1865, the latter died in 1864; children eight. Grandparents, Jotham and Kesiah (Stacey) Glazier, natives of Massachusetts, who came to county in 1806; children twelve.

Griswold, Daniel P., p. o. South Cortland,

pension soldier, tailor and farmer, born in Dryden in 1845, was collector two terms; wife, Annette Tyler, daughter of Samuel P. and Jemima (Hopkins) Tyler, born in 1848, married in 1871; children two: Bernicle E., born in 1875, and Clyde T., born in 1877. Parents, Edward and Mary (Tyler) Griswold, the former died in Virgil in 1869, aged 75, and the latter in 1854; children eleven, six now living. Daniel P. enlisted in Co. C, 76th N. Y. Vols., in 1861, was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg in 1863, and receives a pension of $30 per month.

Hall, Amos T., p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer, carpenter and builder, born in Virgil in 1818; wife, Maria E. Merical, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Adney) Merical, born in Schoharie county in 1828, married in 1846; children four, two now living: William H. and Anna. William married Alice J. Frear and Anna married Joe Stafford. Parents, Girden and Polly (Peabody) Hall, natives of Connecticut, who settled in Virgil in 1816, married in 1818; children eleven, seven now living, the former served in the war of 1812, drew a pension of $96 yearly, and died in 1874.

Hammon, Riley, p. o. Virgil, farmer and dairy, born in Virgil in 1841, has represented his district at State conventions; wife, Charlotte L. Woodard, daughter of Samuel and Deborah A. Woodard, born in Virgil in 1843, married in 1860; children five, two now living: Luetta M. and Willie E. Parents, John and Louisa (Keys) Hammon, natives of Vermont, the former born in 1818, married in 1834 and died in 1875, the latter born in 1818.

Haskins, James B. F., p. o. South Cortland, farmer and dairy, born in Virgil in 1842; wife, Maggie Pike, daughter of De Villo and Sarah (Calvert) Pike, born in 1848, married in 1867; children two: Clyde F., born in 1880, and Earl A., born in 1884. Parents, Alanson and Clarissa (Andrews) Haskins, both of Fabius, N. Y., settled in Virgil in 1825, the former died in 1869, the latter is still living, aged 83 years; children seven.

Holton, William A., p. o. Virgil, general merchant and dealer in groceries, drugs, hardware, etc., born in Virgil in 1845, was justice of the peace, town clerk one term and held other offices; wife, Delphine Brooks, born in 1847, married in 1874. Parents, Lester and Betsey (Tanner) Holton, the former born in 1816, died in 1857, the latter born in 1818, died in 1874; children five, four now living: L. C., M. E., R. E. and W. A. Grandparents, Dr. Rufus and Althea (Smith) Holton, who settled in Madison county in 1820 and Cortland county in 1827. William A. Holton began the mercantile business in 1870, the firm being Peckham & Holton, and sold his interest in 1873, purchased his present site and erected the present two-story building, the store and dwelling where he now resides.

Homer, Henry F., p. o. Virgil, farmer, born in Virgil in 1839; wife, Sophia Hammond, daughter of John and Louisa Hammond, born in Virgil in 1842, married in 1860; one child, Julia, born in 1866. Parents, Edmund and Rohamey (Johnson) Homer, the former born in 1801 and died in 1854, the latter born in 1800 and died in 1842; children three, two now living: Henry F. and Henrietta, who married John Winters, of Virgil.

Hotchkiss, Charles Alonzo, p. o. Virgil, farmer and dairy, born in Virgil in 1829; wife, Jeanett Hopkins, daughter of James and Margaret (Smith) Hopkins, born in Dryden in 1825, married in 1852; children three: Eva May, born Feb. 21st, 1855, died Dec, 5th, 1878; Harriet B., born in 1856, and Elsworth A., born in 1861. Eva M. married Egbert D. Spencer May 28th, 1874; Egbert D. died May 15th, 1875; Eva M. married again W. B. Main Nov. 24th, 1876; one child. Harriet married Rev. Geo. F. Humphreys, of Massachusetts, in 1875; children three. Elsworth married Jennie L. Sessions in 1883; one child. Parents, Charles and Polly (Stillman) Hotchkiss, married in 1807, the former died in 1868, aged 84, the latter born in 1789, died May 6th, 1874; children six, three now living: Jane, born in 1819, Charles A., born in 1829, Enoch D., born in 1834.

Lang, Robert, jr., p. o. Virgil, born in Yorkshire, England, in 1820, settled in county in 1841; wife, Mary Carr, daughter of William and Sophia Carr, born in Freetown in 1827, married in 1847, died in 1883; children six, five now living: Mary Ann, Ruie S., William R., Merton D. and Lillian E. Parents, Robert and Mary Lang, of Yorkshire, England.

Lewis, Nathaniel, p. o. Virgil, retired farmer, born in Dryden March 4th, 1815, settled in county in 1818, was president and trustee of Virgil Cemetery Association, and United States mail agent for sixteen years; wife, Mila Glazier, daughter of Stacy and Axsie (Branch) Glazier, born in Virgil in 1821, married in 1840; children five, four now living: Truman, Augusta, Mary and Isaac R. Parents, John and Jemima (Steenburgh) Lewis, of Orange county, settled in county in 1818, the former died in 1850, and the latter in 1838; children ten.

Lincoln, Wait, p. o. Virgil, farmer, born in Virgil in 1817; wife, Melissa Muncey, born in 1827, married in 1844; children eight, three now living: Alice, Ella L. and Willis P. Parents, Major William and Ruth (Sexton) Lincoln, the former from Massachusetts and the latter of New York.

Johnson, Senora D., p. o. Virgil.

Lowe, Garrison H., p. o. Virgil, farmer, owns 93 acres, born in Sullivan county in 1825, settled in county in 1839; wife, Polly Ann Ballou, of Onondaga county, daughter of Silas and Polly (Shumway) Ballou, who settled in Virgil about 1816, married in 1848; children five: Silas B., Jane Ann, Garrison Demont, Idris and Edith. Parents, Zachariah and Jane (Drake) Lowe, of Sullivan county, the former born in Duchess county, died in Virgil; children seven, three now living.

McKinney, John A., p. o. Virgil, owner and proprietor of Virgil Hotel, born in Virgil in 1851; wife, Mary Jane Brown, born in Ireland, settled in Virgil in 1867, married in 1872, died Oct. 24th, 1883, leaving two children, Irving J. and R. T. Parents, John and Mary Ann (Steele) McKinney, natives of Ireland, married and settled in Virgil in 1850, the former died Oct. 24th, 1882; children eight, six now living: Robert, John A., Thomas E., William G., Henry S., Nancy J. and Mary H. Robert enlisted in the 185th regiment in 1864, served to close of war, and died in February, 1878. John A. purchased the Virgil House in spring of 1884.

Muncey, Dr. William A., p. o. Virgil, physician and surgeon, born in Truxton in 1832; wife, Lodema J. Brooks, of Cortland, daughter of Ransom J. Brooks, born in 1843, married in 1864; children two: Wilfred B. and Ransom B. Parents, Stearns and H. (Nicholson) Muncey, the former of Rensselaer county, died in Chemung county in 1883, the latter of Chenango county, died in Tioga county in 1873. Dr. Wm. A. Muncey was a graduate of Philadelphia American University in 1874, also the New York Eclectic Medical College, in 1882, read medicine with Dr. Nobles, of Waverly, commenced practice in Waverly in 1858 under the old State law, and in 1859 settled in Virgil where he now resides.

Mynard, Wellington P., p. o. Virgil, farmer and stock dealer, born in Virgil in 1841, was supervisor two terms and overseer of the poor one year. Parents, Madison B. and Maria (Bouton) Mynard, the former born in 1810 and died in 1859, the latter born in 1813 and died in 1860; children seven, five now living: Wellington P., born in 1841, Eliza H. in 1846, Madison A. in 1851, Maria Louise in 1854, and George in 1857.

Oaks, James H., p. o. Virgil, insurance agent and dairy farmer, born in Herkimer county in 1833, settled in county in 1834; wife, Henriette Champlin, daughter of Henry and Mary (Chrisman) Champlin, born in 1842, married in 1866; children two: Eva M. and Mary Ettie. Parents, Abraham and Maria (Smith) Oaks, the former born in 1809 and died in 1858, the latter born in 1813, married in 1831; children nine, seven now living. Grandfather, Henry Oaks, born in Germany, came to America when ten years of age. He enlisted in the Revolutionary war, was taken prisoner by the Indians, made his escape, married in Montgomery county; children three.

Price, David R., p. o. Cortland, farmer, born in Virgil in 1820; wife, Deborah Hutchins, born in Ulster county in 1820, married in 1844; children eight: George R., Emma, Elmer, Maurice, Ephraim E., Antha, Manley and Ina. George married Rose Langworthy; Ina married Aaron Overton; Emma married Charles Robinson; Ephraim married Alice Dearman; Antha married George S. Sherman; Maurice married Emma Spencer. Parents, Zachariah and Elizabeth (Ryan) Price, the former born in Rensselaer county, came to Cortland in 1809, the latter born in Montgomery county in 1801, married in

1811 and died in 1883; children eleven. Grandparents, Jacob and Catharine (Barringer) Price, who settled in Virgil in 1816; children ten.

Saltsman, Frederick F., p. o. Virgil, farmer, born in Cortland county, has been highway commissioner two terms; wife, Loretta J. House, born in Virgil in 1847, married in 1869; children two: Carlton Lee and Ray Frank. Parents, John and Phebe (Frank) Saltsman, the former born in Montgomery county in 1810, the latter born in Virgil; children five: Susannah, Mary Ann, Sarah Jane, F. F. and Cora Atane. Grandparents, George and Nancy (Cook) Saltsman, natives of Montgomery county, came to county in 1821; children six.

Shevalier, Nathan L., p. o. Messengerville, farmer, born in Virgil in 1858; wife, Augusta Weller, of Onondaga county, daughter of Jeremiah Weller, born in 1857, married in 1878; one child, Ina. Parents, Isaac and Nancy (Smith) Shevalier, the former died in 1878, aged 47; children four: Harriet, Dick A., Eugenie and Nathan L.

Smith, Nathan J., p. o. Messengerville, farmer, born in Virgil in 1847; wife, Luricia Adelle Angell, daughter of E. D. Angell, born in 1850, married in 1869; children two: M. Louise and Wilmer A. Parents, Nathan and Lucy (Mallery) Smith, the former born in Marathon in 1808, the latter in 1809; children seven, four now living: A. P., Nancy A., Angeline and N. J.

Spencer, Nathan, p. o. Virgil, farmer and stock dealer, born in Virgil in 1821, was supervisor three terms; first wife, Polly Ann Price, married in 1843 and died in 1863; children five: Earl W., Henry F., Emma Dett, Alice V. and Egbert D.; second wife, Mrs. Angeline (Smith) Homer, married in 1866; one son, Lin C. Parents, Isaac and Nancy (Peabody) Spencer, natives of Otsego county. Grandparents, Amos and Dorcas Spencer, natives of Rhode Island, the former was a Revolutionary soldier, and died in Otsego county.

Stafford, George W., p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer, born in Virgil in 1846. Parents, Josiah and Eliza Ann (Male) Stafford, born in Broad Oak, England, in 1817, the latter came to county in 1837, the former died in 1877, aged 62 years. Grandparents, Joseph and Susan (Hopkins) Stafford, natives of Rhode Island, settled in Virgil in 1816, the former died in 1860, the latter in 1872; children eleven.

Stafford, Hopkins, p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer and dairy, born in Otsego county in 1813, settled in county in 1816; wife, Nancy Allen, born in Virgil in 1817, married in 1838, died in 1862; children ten, five now living: Charlotte, Timothy, Amy, Job B. and Cynthia L. Parents, Joseph and Susan (Hopkins) Stafford.

Stafford, Miles, p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer, born in Virgil in 1828; wife, Roby Westcott, daughter of Nathaniel Westcott, born in Pennsylvania in 1830, married in 1851; children four: Emeline, born in 1852, Nathaniel, born in 1856, Minnie in 1862, Layton in 1868. Parents, Joseph and Susan (Hopkins) Stafford, natives of Rhode Island.

Stowell, John, p. o. Blodgett's Mills, farmer, born in Virgil in 1828; wife, Henrietta Luce, daughter of John and Betsey Luce, born in 1832, married in 1854; one child, Melvin Monroe, born in 1857 and married Eva F. Luce in 1880. Parents, Lucius and Sally (Ketcham) Stowell, the former born in Connecticut in 1792, took up 150 acres of land in Virgil in 1810, and afterward bought 150 more, was drafted, served in the war of 1812, and drew a pension, died in 1882, the latter born in 1799 and died in 1876; children six. Lucius Stowell took up 300 acres of land in Virgil in 1810 at $1.75 per acre. His parents emigrated with a yoke of cattle, a heavy wagon and one lumber wagon. John still lives on the homestead where he was born.

Shults, David, p. o. Virgil, farmer and stock grower, born in Montgomery county in 1817; wife, Mary E. Reese, born in Montgomery county in 1829, married in 1848; children four: Jacob R., born in 1852, James H. in 1854, Wilber F. in 1861, and Katie E. in 1866. James H. is a professor, graduating from Syracuse University in 1876, married Grace Hubbell, of Rochester, in 1876; children two: Elbert and Clarence. Parents, George and Elizabeth Shults, of Montgomery county, N. Y.

Terpenning, Eddie D., p. o. Virgil, born in Lapeer in 1849; wife, Jessie C. Chubb, daughter

of Abraham and Mary E. Chubb, born in 1852, married in 1877; one adopted child, Alta, born in October, 1878, adopted February 19th, 1884. Parents, William and Clarissa (Ballou) Terpenning, born in Virgil, married in 1845; children three: Emma D., Eddie D. and Evaline. Grandparents, Marenus and Peggy Terpenning, who settled in Virgil in 1815; children nine, six now living.

Trapp, Fred L., p. o. McLean, farmer, born in Virgil in 1860. Parents, David R. and Nancy A. (Bush) Trapp, the former born in 1815 and died in 1878, the latter born in 1826; children seven, five now living: William J., George H., Frank E., Harrison D. and Fred L. Grandparents, William and Catharine Trapp, early settlers of Cortland county.

Trapp, William J., p. o. McLean, farmer, born in Tompkins county in 1848; wife, Eliza McElheney, daughter of Marshall and Catharine (Bush) McElheney, born in 1848, married in 1872; children two: Leroy D. and Anna A. Parents, David and Nancy A. (Bush) Trapp, the former born in 1815, died in 1878, the latter born in 1826; children seven, five now living.

Tripp, Dr. John D., p. o. Virgil, physician and surgeon, born in Dryden in 1843, was supervisor one term; wife, Josephine E. Lamb, daughter of Alfred and Elizabeth (Merrill) Lamb, born in Skaneateles, Onondaga county, married in 1870. Parents, George W. and Caroline (Brown) Tripp. Dr. John D. Tripp was graduated in 1865, began the practice of medicine in Virgil in 1865, where he has a very extended practice.

Veeder, Cornelius, p. o. Virgil, owns 231 acres, and dairy, born in Montgomery county in 1824, settled in county in 1828, has held several offices; wife, Laura Jane Joiner, daughter of John and Polly (Baker) Joiner, born in 1835, married in 1854; children three: Cora, Ada and Hattie. Parents, Adam and Hibert (Bradt) Veeder, who came to Virgil in 1828, the latter died in 1863, the former is still living, aged 92; children eleven.

West, Punderson, p. o. Virgil, miller, born in Tompkins county in 1816, settled in county in 1817; wife, Jane Tyler, born in Dryden in 1828, married in 1855. Parents, Erastus and Abigail Tarbox, natives of Connecticut, who settled in Virgil in 1817, the former died in 1855, aged 78, the latter died in 1862; children five. Mr. P. West purchased his present mill in 1875, it has two run of stone and fed by Spring Brook creek, it was formerly used as a carding and cloth dressing mill.

Wood, M. R., p. o. Cortland, born in Virgil in 1832; wife, Martha B. Calvert, daughter of John and Samantha (Goodale) Calvert, born in 1833, married in 1858; one child, F. Adelle, born in 1860, married N. F. Webb in 1884. Parents, Jonas and Catharine (Cornwell) Wood, who settled in Virgil in 1818, the former died in 1881, aged 82, the latter died in 1856.

Wood, Warren A., p. o. Virgil, mason and farmer, born in Virgil in 1823; wife, Aseneth Griswold, born in Dryden in 1821, married in 1845, died in 1863; children four: Mary E., Sarah M., Frank C. and Hattie L. Parents, Orrin and Sally (Morse) Wood, who settled in Virgil in 1822.

WILLET.

Babcock, Andrew M., p. o. Willet, farmer, born in Otsego county in 1815, settled in county in 1835; wife, Mary Ann Jones, daughter of Enoch and Wealthy (Williams) Jones, born in Schoharie county in 1830, married in 1853; one child, Elvin A., born Oct. 17th, 1865. Parents, Jonathan and Sarah (Johnson) Babcock, who came to county in 1835 with seven children, of which but two, Andrew M. and Marvin, survive.

Babcock, Marvin, p. o. Willet, farmer, born in Otsego county in 1821, settled in county in 1835, has been collector three years, assessor six years, and held several other offices; wife, Eliza Jane Jones, daughter of Enoch and Wealthy (Williams) Jones, born in Chenango county in 1834, married in 1855; one child, Adelbert S., born in 1863. Parents, Jonathan and Sarah (Johnson) Babcock, the former born in Stephentown, N. Y., Nov. 20th, 1788, and died Sept. 15th, 1856, the latter born July 24th, 1788, and died in 1844.

Bliss, Calvin J., p. o. Willet, farmer and retired teacher, born in Preston, Chenango county, in 1822, settled in county in 1846, has been justice of the peace nine years and teacher eleven years;

wife, Betsey A. Landers, daughter of Charles and Lucinda (Shepard) Landers, who came to county in 1846, married in 1850; children two: Charles Emery and Cora L.; Charles married Florence Sherwood in 1874. Parents, Solomon and Anna (Packer) Bliss, the former of Massachusetts, who died in 1861, aged 75, the latter in 1866, aged 80.

Brigham, Archibald, p. o. Upper Lisle, farmer and stock dealer, born in Willet in 1825 and died in 1865; wife, Esther Ann Rooks, daughter of Willard and Polly (Crittenden) Rooks, born in Cortland county in 1828, married in 1854; children two: Hiram L., born in 1855, and Hattie L., born in 1857. Parents, Orleans and Mercy (Stafford) Brigham, natives of Rhode Island, who settled in county in 1812; children eleven, five now living.

Covey, Edward W., p. o. Willet, farmer and tanner, born in Otsego county in 1805, settled in county in 1838; wife, Mercy Bradley, daughter of Zachariah Bradley, of Connecticut, born in 1813, married in 1829; children five: Loron B., born in 1832, Edward W. in 1835, Charles H. in 1838, Lydia, in 1841, and George W. in 1851. Parents, William and Esther (Yarns) Covey, born in Duchess county, and were among the early settlers of Otsego county.

Dyer, Samuel C., p. o. Willet, merchant, vocal and instrumental music teacher, has been assessor four years, town clerk several years, and supervisor in 1875; wife, Ervilla J. Smith, born in Willet in 1841, married in 1862. Parents, John S. and Harriet (Shaw) Dyer, the former was first merchant in Willet, served as justice of the peace for many years, and died in 1873. Grandparents, Samuel and Lydia (Jones) Dyer, the former born in Stonington, Conn., in 1777, the latter in Rhode Island, married in 1799, and settled in Willet in 1816; children six, the former died in 1842, the latter in 1862.

Eaton, John C., p. o. Willet, farmer, born in Willet in 1827; wife, Melvina Wilson, daughter of Henry and Sally (Livermore) Wilson, born in Willet in 1830, married in 1846; children three: Florence R., Rollen S. and Alphonzo D.; Florence married Wm. R. Burgel in 1874; children five. Rollen married Ardell J. Alexander in 1873; children two. Alphonzo married Ella A. Maine in 1879; children two. Parents, Peter and Polly (Van Sice) Eaton, natives of Cherry Valley, who settled in Willet in 1815, the former held many town offices and died in 1881, the latter died in 1844; children seven.

Eaton, Peter, p. o. Willet, born in Willet in 1822, farmer, owns 500 acres; wife, Harriet Greene, born in Willet in 1818, married in 1849; children four: Hattie R., who married Rev. Adelfred J. Brown, of Syracuse, Elfie L., who married John D. Coe, of Willet, Coriell G., who married Ida B. Olmstead, of Triangle, and Elbert P., who is unmarried. Parents, Peter and Polly (Van Sice) Eaton, natives of Otsego county.

Eaton, Ulysses, p. o. Willet, farmer, born in Willet in 1818, served many years as commissioned officer in the old military company; first wife, Marsh M. Hazzard, born in 1818, married in 1839, died in 1864, leaving four children; second wife, Sarah Augusta Dutton, born in Afton in 1824, married in 1865. Parents, Peter and Polly (Van Sice) Eaton.

Forshee, Walter, p. o. Willet, dealer in hardware, stoves, tin, household furnishing goods and farm implements, born in Cortlandville in 1838; wife, Eliza Leach, daughter of Christopher and Lucetta Leach, born in 1848, married in 1879; children two: Isaac C. and John Irving. Parents, Isaac and Elizabeth (Newman) Forshee, natives of Orange county, who settled in Cortland in 1833, the latter died in 1872, leaving three children: Cornelius, Augusta and Walter, who came to Willet in 1876.

Gardiner, Ishmael E., p. o. Willet, farmer and dairyman, born in Columbus, Madison county, in 1832, settled in county in 1839; wife, Lizania Eaton, daughter of Abel and Elvira Eaton, born in Willet in 1840, married in 1856; children six: Arthur E., Minnie E., Ernest, Jennie A., Alice M., and Lewellyn. Arthur married Belle Morey in 1878, Minnie married W. H. Jones in 1878.

Greene, Burrill, p. o. Willet, farmer and stock grower, owns 360 acres, born in Willet in 1820, has been supervisor one term, justice of the peace four terms, and held other district offices; first wife, Rosilla Babcock, born in Otsego county in 1817, married in 1855, died in 1860; children three: Leetta R., B. Jefferson and Harriet R.;

second wife, Phebe E. Greene, born in North Scituate, R. I., in 1828, married in 1867. Parents, Benjamin T. and Hettie (Wilson) Greene, who were among the very first settlers of the county.

Greene, Henry O., p. o. Willet, carpenter and builder, born in Willet April 17th, 1824; wife, Lovantia Tennant, seventh daughter of Robert and Polly (Eaton) Tennant, born in Willet October 26th, 1828, married in 1846; Robert Adelbert, only child of Henry and Lovantia Greene, born December 19th, 1849, married Ella F. Ferris, December 4th, 1869; one child, Clara A., daughter of Robert and Ella F., born June 16th, 1871. Parents, Joseph and Permelia (Wilson) Greene, the former from Rhode Island and the latter of Willet, the former held many town offices, and died April 25th, 1882, leaving eight children.

Greene, Wilson, p. o. Willet, farmer and stock grower, owns 400 acres, born in Willet in 1828, was supervisor eight terms, justice of the peace one term, and school superintendent one term; wife, Rhoda Wiles, daughter of Henry and Julia A. (Moore) Wiles, born in Willet in 1831, married in 1865; children three: G. Maurice, Belle and Alice B. Parents, Benjamin T. and Hettie (Wilson) Greene. Grandparents, William and Mary Greene, who settled in county with four sons and one daughter in 1808.

Jones, Asiel, p. o. Upper Lisle, farmer and stock dealer, born in Schoharie county in 1831, settled in county in 1843; wife, Deliah Salisbury, adopted daughter of Ebenezer Salisbury, of Rhode Island, born in 1836, married in 1862; one adopted daughter, Luella M. Jones. Parents, Enoch and Wealthy (William) Jones, who settled in Willet in 1843, the former died in 1875, the latter in 1877, leaving ten children, eight now living.

Landers, Charles, p. o. Upper Lisle, retired farmer, born in Afton, Chenango county, in 1796, moved to Broome county in 1802 and Cortland county in 1836, has been assessor several terms and held other offices; wife, Lucinda Shepherd, daughter of Timothy Shepherd, born in Triangle in 1805, married in 1824, died in 1879, leaving three children: Garry S., Betsey A. and Marcellus. Parents, John and Charlotte (Patterson) Landers, the former born in Massachusetts in 1771 and died in Broome county in 1813, the latter of Litchfield county, Conn., died in 1855, aged 85.

McVean, Charles P., p. o. Willet, merchant and postmaster, born in Solon in 1833, has been associate judge, justice of the peace and postmaster since 1874; wife, Phebe Bailey, daughter of Col. Wm. B. Bailey, born in New York city in 1838, married in 1860. Parents, Peter and Charity (Snider) McVean, the former born in Johnstown, N. Y., began the mercantile trade at Texas Valley, with his son as partner, in 1868.

Mooney, Austin, p. o. Willet, farmer, born in Willet in 1845; wife, Eliza A. Coles, born in Chenango county in 1849, daughter of William and Eliza (Geer) Coles, who settled in Willet in 1851, married in 1869; one child, Lewis R. Parents, Lewis and Eliza (Adams) Mooney, natives of Willet.

Mooney, Frederick, p. o. Willet, farmer and stock grower, born in Willet in 1837; wife, Dorcas, daughter of Henry and Julia A. (Moore) Wiles, married in 1869. Parents, Lewis and Eliza (Adams) Mooney.

Mooney, Lewis (deceased), born in Putnam county, October 21st, 1807, and died in January, 1878, was supervisor, assessor and highway commissioner; wife, Eliza Adams, daughter of Stephen and Abby Jane (Steadwell) Adams, born in Duchess county in 1809, married Dec 26th, 1832; children five, four living: Frederick, born in 1837, Stephen A., born in 1839, Susan, born in 1842, and Austin, born in 1845. Stephen now resides in Missouri. His daughter, Eliza Jane Mooney, was born January 13th, 1835, married Dr. H. C. Hendrick, October 12th, 1854, died in McGrawville, June 12th, 1858.

Morey, Leeman B., p. o. Willet, farmer and dairy, born in Duchess county in 1816, settled in county in 1852, has been assessor three terms; first wife, Judah M. Bailey, married in 1838, died in 1854; second wife, Polly L. Greene, born in Willet in 1819, married in 1856; children two: Isabella and Marell, the former married Arthur Gardner in 1878; children two: Earl and Loie M. Parents, Stephen and Susan (Weller) Morey, natives of Duchess county.

Newcomb, Curtis S., p. o. Willet, farmer and stock dealer, born in Willet in 1843; wife, Pluma Mathews, of Bradford county, Penn., born in 1845, married in 1867, died in 1883; children three: Minnie Bell, Samuel G. and Phebe May. Parents, Samuel and Emma (Tyler) Newcomb, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Willet in 1840, the former died in 1883, aged 77 years, the latter died in 1864, leaving twelve children.

Smith, Frank, p. o. Willet, proprietor and owner of American Hotel at Willet, born in German, Chenango county, in 1848, settled in county in 1879; wife, De Etta Leach, daughter of Christopher and Lucetta Leach, born in Marathon in 1854, married in 1873; children two: Christopher J. H., and Mary Ann Lucetta. Frank Smith purchased the hotel in 1879, which was built by John S. Dyer over fifty years ago, and has made many changes and extensive repairs to the same.

Tennant, Elijah, p. o. Willet, farmer, owns 200 acres, born in Willet in 1831; wife, Lucy Fuller, born in Triangle, Broome county, in 1832, married in 1852; children two: Augustus O., born in 1853, and Elva M., born in 1862. Parents, Robert and Mary (Eaton) Tennant, the former of Connecticut, born in 1782, settled in Willet in 1817, died in 1844, the latter born in 1788 and died in 1882; children twelve.

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